FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

27 OCTOBER 1983

Lebanon

Reaction to Bombings — Former President Sulayman Franjiyah, speaking at a news conference on 25 October, denounced the bombings of the Marine and French forces headquarters in Beirut, the Ihdin Radio of Free and Unified Lebanon reported.

Israeli President Yitzhaq Shamir told a group from the United States that the bombings were "done by Syria and terrorist elements working under its aegis, enjoying a Soviet umbrella," ITIM reported. The Israeli newspaper *Ha'aretz* charged that Iran could not have carried out the attacks, "even if it had wanted to," as only Syria has the necessary control and logistics for such an atack in Lebanon.

In an interview with Tehran radio, Ayatollah Khomeyni's representative on the Iranian Supreme Defense Council reiterated that "it is impossible that Iran was behind the incidents."

Political Developments — Progressive Socialist Party leader Walid Junblatt warned against "continued violation of the ceasefire" by Lebanese Army and Phalangist forces in a statement reported by SANA, adding that he might "reconsider" his decision to participate in the Geneva reconciliation conference if the violations continue. President al-Jumayyil held a "lengthy" telephone conversation with Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad, during which Al-Asad was invited to send an envoy to attend the conference, Beirut radio reported. Al-Jumayyil also held a similar conversation with Saudi King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz and met with former Prime Minister Sa'ib Salam.

Defense Minister Moshe Arens asserted in a Jerusalem television interview that relations between Israeli forces and the Shi'a population in southern Lebanon have not worsened. Meanwhile, Shi'ite leaders in An-Nabatiyah conferred with IDF officers and emphasized that they "would not support" violence "inspired" by orders from Beirut or Damascus, according to Jerusalem radio.

Military Situation — Army positions in 'Ayn ar-Rummanah, Suq al-Gharb, and Qabr Shmun were shelled while positions in the southern suburbs of Beirut came under RPG and machine gun fire on 26 October, according to reports by Beirut and Voice of Lebanon radios. Voice of Lebanon also reported clashes in Iqlim al-Kharrub.

A security source cited by Beirut radio reported Israeli and Syrian forces building up along the confrontation line in the Al-Biqa'. Similarly, security reports cited by the clandestine Radio Free Lebanon stated that the Syrians have reinforced positions overlooking the Al-Biqa' plain.

Iran-Iraq War

Reporting on the latest stage of the offensive in the northern sector, military communiques broadcast by Tehran radio said Iranian forces advanced to the northwest of Panjwin, ultimately capturing strategic heights directly west of the city. The communiques added that the advances took Iranian forces to positions from which they can both observe and fire upon the main Iraqi supply route in the region and maintained that 400 Iraqis were killed or wounded during the advance. A military communique carried by Baghdad radio said Iranian forces attempting to approach Iraqi positions in the northern sector were repulsed. Iraqi units engaged Iranian forward units, killing 65.

Responding to Iraq's claims to have mined areas of the Gulf, the commander of the Iranian Navy stated that Iran's naval superiority in the Gulf allows it to keep all Iraqi movements under observation, making any such claims "baseless and vain," IRNA reported. The commander affirmed that "generally" Iranian policy is not to close the Strait of Hormuz "unless others should block" Iran's access to the waterway.

Iran

Government forces launched more operations against "counter-revolutionaries" in West Azarbayjan near Sar Dasht, inflicting more than 150 casualties, "liberating" 18 villages, and capturing 8 strategic heights near the Iraqi border, IRNA reported. The Mojahedin-e Khalq released a communique in Paris claiming that 500 Islamic Revolution guards were killed when they attacked Kurdish villages on 24 October, the clandestine Free Voice of Iran radio announced.

PLO Affairs

At a press conference in the Al-Baddawi camp in Lebanon, a member of the General Command of the Syrian-backed As-Sa'iqah organization announced that some militias, military units, and individual members of the As-Sa'iqah forces in the Al-Barid and Al-Baddawi camps and the Tripoli area split from the organization's leadership when it "disavowed the PLO," Radio Monte Carlo reported.

A member of the Fatah Central Committee, cited by WAKH, announced that Fatah will hold a conference in January that will have the authority to confirm or change the Fatah leadership.

In another development, the PRC informed the acting PLO mission chief in Beijing that it will supply emergency material aid in response to an appeal by PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat, according to XINHUA.

Reaction to Grenada Events

Reacting to the "armed invasion" of Grenada by the United States and six other Caribbean countries, Libyan leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi sent a message to the UN Security Council, secretary general, and chairman of the General Assembly asserting that the events in Grenada "killed any hope" smaller nations like Grenada may have of living in freedom. According to JANA, Al-Qadhdhafi charged that the only thing that can "rescue" humanity is "an international alliance to invade the United States" and "purge the spirit of evil and nazism" there. Tripoli radio relayed proceedings of a demonstration in Tripoli during which a statement was read denouncing the U.S. action.

An official Syrian source cited by Damascus television condemned the action and called for the withdrawal of the "invading" forces, while Damascus radio asserted that by its invasion of Grenada the United States proved that its talk of freedom and democracy "is as false in the American Continent as it is in the Middle East." A spokesman for the Iranian Foreign Affairs Ministry cited by Tehran radio condemned the "aggression," and a PDRY Foreign Affairs Ministry statement broadcast by Aden radio denounced the "imperialist armed invasion."

Meanwhile, the Algerian Foreign Ministry secretary general met with the U.S. ambassador and noted that "an immediate and unconditional end to this intervention is an irrevocable demand," according to Algiers radio. The Qatari newspapers *Ar-Rayah* and *Al-'Arab* were cited by QNA as warning the United States against a similar invasion of Lebanon under the same "pretexts and claims," while the UAE newspapers *Al-Ittihad* and *Al-Khalij* denounced the U.S. methods and observed that Grenada is no larger than a "small Arab town," reported WAM.

FBIS **DAILY REPORT**

CONTENTS

Middle East & Africa

Vol V No 209 *27 October 1983*

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW i

ARABIAN PENINSULA

GULF AFFAIRS

Possible Postponement of GCC Summit Noted *[AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM 25 Oct]* ..... C 1

BAHRAIN

Information Minister on Foreign News Agencies *[AL-AHD]* ..... C 1

KUWAIT

France Plans To Supply Early Warning System ..... C 1
Damascus-Baghdad Shuttle Efforts To Be Postponed ..... C 1
U.S. Treasury Secretary Arrives on Visit ..... C 2

OMAN

Foreign Ministry Official Leaves for FRG ..... C 2

QATAR

U.S. Forces' Activities in Grenada Criticized *[AR-RAYAH, AL-'ARAB]* ..... C 2

SAUDI ARABIA

'UKAZ Explores Motives for Beirut Bombings *[24 Oct]* ..... C 2
U.S. Treasury Secretary Continues Visit ..... C 3
Meets Ministers ..... C 3
Confers With King Fahd ..... C 3
Leaves for Kuwait ..... C 4
Fahd Receives Visiting African Officials ..... C 4
CAR Foreign Minister Denies Israeli Ties Plans ..... C 4
Kenyan President Moi Makes Official Visit ..... C 4
Kenyan President Departs ..... C 4
Ambassador Presents Credentials to Reagan ..... C 4

UAE

U.S. Intervention in Grenada, Lebanon Scored ..... C 4
AS-SIYASAH Interviews UAE's Khalifah ibn Zayid ..... C 5

PDRY

Chairman Denounces U.S. 'Invasion' of Grenada ..... C 5
Foreign Affairs Ministry on Grenada Events ..... C 6
Foreign Minister Congratulates Gromyko ..... C 6
GDR Party Delegation Arrives in Aden 25 October ..... C 6

YAR

President Salih Calls Iraqi President Husayn ..... C 7

EGYPT

Reportage on Reaction to Beirut Explosions ..... D 1
Foreign Minister Condemns Bombings *[AL-AHRAM 24 Oct]* ..... D 1
Foreign Ministry Holds Contacts ..... D 1
Ghali Meets French Ambassador ..... D 1
Press on Beirut Attack ..... D 1
Further Newspaper Commentary ..... D 2
Columnist Sees Israeli Motives *[AL-AHRAM 25 Oct]* ..... D 2
Mubarak Meets Atherton, Sends Message to Reagan ..... D 2
'Ali on Mubarak's Meeting With Advisers 26 Oct ..... D 3
Minister's Statement on 26 Oct Cabinet Meeting ..... D 3
Ghali Receives Cuban Envoy on Grenada Events ..... D 3
Foreign Ministry Source Comments ..... D 3
Abu Nidal Members Arrested on Terrorism Charges ..... D 4
Canada's Foreign Secretary Pays 3-Day Visit ..... D 4
Meets Muhyi ad-Din ..... D 4
Meets With Ghali ..... D 4
Talks Reported ..... D 5
'Ali, MacEachen Banquet Speeches ..... D 5
Meets Mubarak, Discusses Talks ..... D 5
Loan To Purchase Locomotives ..... D 6
MacEachen News Conference ..... D 6
Minister Leaves 24 Oct ..... D 7
Briefs: Technical Cooperation With France ..... D 7

IRAQ

Communique Released on 25-26 Oct War Operations ..... E 1
New Iranian Offensive Expected in Northern Sector ..... E 1
'Harder, Fiercer' Strikes Against Iran Threatened *[London ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT 25 Oct]* ..... E 1
Egypt's 'Ali Minister Meets 'Aziz, Saddam Husayn *[MENA]* ..... E 1
Leaves for Amman ..... E 2
Vice President Calls for Gulf Cooperation ..... E 2
Economic Cooperation Pact With UAE Signed ..... E 2
Reportage on Beirut Bomb Blasts 23 Oct ..... E 3
Description of Blasts ..... E 3
Weinberger Suspects Iranians ..... E 3
Reagan Statement Cited ..... E 3

JORDAN

Ambassador in Rome Shot; Groups Claim Credit ..... F 1
Ambassador's Condition Improved ..... F 1
Italian, Indian Leaders Denounce Assassinations ..... F 1
Foreign Ministry Says Khurma's Health Improving ..... F 1
Egypt's Foreign Minister To Arrive 27 October *[AR-RA'Y 27 Oct]* ..... F 1
Canadian Deputy Prime Minister Winds Up Visit ..... F 1
Meeting With Crown Prince ..... F 1
Holds Press Conference ..... F 2
MacEachen Departs for Israel ..... F 2
Briefs: Ambassador in YAR ..... F 2

LEBANON

President Contacts Syria's Al-Asad, King Fahd ..... G 1
Salam Meets Al-Jumayyil, Contacts Franjiyah ..... G 1
Al-Jumayyil Confers With Saudi Envoy Al-Hariri ..... G 1
Delegations to Geneva Conference Named ..... G 1
Saudi Arabia Appoints Envoy to Dialogue Meeting ..... G 1

Cabinet Briefed on Mitterrand, Bush Visits ..... G 2
Security Arrangements Committee Meets 26 October ..... G 2
Radio Updates Toll of French, Marine Dead ..... G 2
Defense Minister Khuri on Aims of Paris Visit ..... G 2
Junblatt Warns of Phalangist Cease-Fire Violation ..... G 2
Franjiyah, Karami Comment on Departure for Damascus ..... G 3
Nabih Birri Answers Phalangist Radio Charges *[AS-SAFIR 26 Oct]* ..... G 3
Amal's Birri Interviewed on Dialogue Conference *[MONDAY MORNING 17-23 Oct]* ..... G 4
Syria Reinforces Positions in Al-Biqa' *[Radio Free Lebanon]* ..... G 10
Israeli, Syrian Concentrations Reported ..... G 10
VOL Says Syria Sends Car Bombs to Beirut ..... G 10
Southern Beirut, Mountain Calm 27 October ..... G 10
Army Positions Under Fire; IDF Patrol Withdraws ..... G 11
Italian Commander on Defense Readiness *[ANSA]* ..... G 11
Press on U.S. Stance on Beirut Developments ..... G 11

SYRIA

Lebanese President Telephones Al-Asad 26 Oct ..... H 1
Western Powers Plan 'Aggression' Against Syria ..... H 1
Damascus on U.S. Military Threats Against Syria ..... H 1
Damascus Radio on U.S. Military Moves in Lebanon ..... H 1
AL-BA'TH Urges Arab Preparation for U.S. Schemes ..... H 2
Official Source Condemns U.S. Grenada Action ..... H 2
Damascus Commentary on Invasion ..... H 3
AL-BA'TH on U.S. Action in Grenada, Lebanon ..... H 3
Palestine Broadcast Assails U.S. 'Barbaric Game' ..... H 4
Al-Asad Receives PASOK Delegation 26 Oct ..... H 4
Al-Ahmar Receives Lebanese Party Delegation ..... H 4
Ash-Shar' Receives Polish Party Delegation ..... H 5
Officials Discuss Cooperation With Romanians ..... H 5
Arab People's Conference To Meet 27 Oct ..... H 5

ISRAEL

Arens, IDF Officers Tour Attack Site in Lebanon ..... I 1
Arens on Relations With Lebanese Shi'ites ..... I 1
IDF Officers Meet Lebanese Shi'ite Leaders ..... I 1
David Levi Says Terrorists Still Active in Lebanon ..... I 1
Peres Urges Cabinet To Decide on Lebanon Policy ..... I 1
Canadian Foreign Affairs Secretary Arrives ..... I 2
Differences Noted ..... I 2
Further Remarks ..... I 2
MA'ARIV Urges 'More Understanding' With U.S. *[26 Oct]* ..... I 2
Muslim Al-'Amal 'Perpetrated' Beirut Bombings *[THE JERUSALEM POST 27 Oct]* ..... I 3
France, Italy Warned of Beirut-Like Attacks *[DAVAR 26 Oct]* ..... I 3
HA'ARETZ Provides Background for Beirut Blasts *[26 Oct]* ..... I 3
Finance Minister Says Confidence Restored ..... I 4
Settlement Budget Announced *[THE JERUSALEM POST 27 Oct]* ..... I 5
Shamir Adviser 'Satisfied' With Arab Elections ..... I 5
Alignment, Likud Claim Election Victories *[YEDI'OT AHARONOT 26 Oct]* ..... I 5
MA'ARIV Compares Grenada With Lebanon Invasion *[26 Oct]* ..... I 5
POST Defends U.S. Decision To Act in Grenada *[27 Oct]* ..... I 6
UK, U.S. Foreign Affairs Officials To Visit ..... I 6

NORTH AFRICA

ALGERIA

Government Demands End to Grenada 'Intervention' ..... Q 1
Bendjedid Meets With Iranian Official *[Tehran]* ..... Q 1

Fatah's Salah Khalaf Arrives in Algiers ..... Q 1

LIBYA

Reportage on Reaction to Grenada Invasion ..... Q 1
Tripoli Reports on 'Invasion' ..... Q 1
JANA on 'Barbaric Invasion' ..... Q 1
Foreign Secretary Explains Stand ..... Q 2
Demonstration Protests Grenada Invasion ..... Q 2

TUNISIA

President Mitterrand Arrives on Official Visit ..... Q 3

EAST AFRICA

ETHIOPIA

Statement Condemns U.S. Military Action in Grenada ..... R 1

SOMALIA

National Movement Seeks Ties With DFSS *[Radio Halgan]* ..... R 1

TANZANIA

Government Statement Condemns Grenada Events ..... R 1

UGANDA

Further on Obote Remarks to FRG Parliamentarians ..... R 1

CENTRAL AFRICA

CAMEROON

Foreign Banks Urged To Promote Cameroonians ..... S 1

CHAD

AFP Reports Rumors in Ndjamena on Reconciliation ..... S 1
Bardai Radio Claims Areas Seized, 66 FAN Killed ..... S 1
Capture of Town Reported *[Bardai]* ..... S 1

CONGO

Sassou-Nguesso Greets PCF's Marchais on Arrival ..... S 1
Banquet Hosted ..... S 2

GABON

Government Imposes Censorship on News on France ..... S 2

WEST AFRICA

GHANA

Japanese Firm To Supply Radio Transmitters ..... T 1

LIBERIA

Foreign Minister on U.S. Invasion of Grenada ..... T 1
Doe Hosts Reception for Donor Delegates ..... T 1
Doe Returns From Conference ..... T 1
Doe Receives 'Special Message' From Stevens ..... T 1

NIGERIA

ANC Envoy on Education in South Africa ..... T 1

UPPER VOLTA

Finance Minister Leaves for Meetings in Niamey ..... T 2

SOUTHERN AFRICA

ANGOLA

Dos Santos Receives Message From Egypt's Mubarak ..... U 1
Communique Issued on PCF's Marchais Visit ..... U 1
Luanda Says Reagan UN Speech 'Distortion' ..... U 1
FAPLA Forces Kill 17 UNITA Members in Benguela ..... U 2

BOTSWANA

Opposition Accuses BDP of Deprivation of Rights ..... U 2

MADAGASCAR

Ratsiraka Condemns U.S. Military Action in Grenada ..... U 2
Trial of 45 Plotters Adjourned to 3 November ..... U 2

MOZAMBIQUE

Lesotho Premier Arrives in Maputo, To Meet Machel ..... U 3
Cuban Deputy Trade Minister in Maputo for Talks ..... U 3

SOUTH AFRICA

Anglican Press Conference Alleges SADF Atrocities ..... U 3
SADF Posed as SWAPO ..... U 3
Allegations To Be Investigated ..... U 4
SWATF Statement on Charges ..... U 4
Ciskei Leader Dismisses U.S. Travel Warning ..... U 5
Foreign Minister on New Australian Guidelines ..... U 5

SWAZILAND

Prime Minister Addresses Press on Elections ..... U 5
Princess Charged With Sedition, Released on Bail *[THE TIMES OF SWAZILAND 26 Oct]* ..... U 5

ZAMBIA

Government 'Unreservedly' Condemns Grenada Events ..... U 5

ZIMBABWE

Foreign Minister Speaks on UN Anniversary ..... U 6
OAU Commission on Refugees Departs for Botswana ..... U 6

Israeli Passport Holders Now Require Prior Visas ..... U 6

GULF AFFAIRS

Possible Postponement of GCC Summit Noted

GF261608 Kuwait Ar-Ra'y Al-'Amm in Arabic 25 Oct 83 pp 1, 23

[Hamad Jasim As-Sa'id dispatch from Riyadh]

[Excerpts] With the recent developments in the situations in Lebanon and in the Gulf region, there have been numerous contacts among GCC senior officials designed to discuss the possibility of postponing the fourth Gulf summit conference, particularly in light of the current circumstances prevailing that affect the political, security, and strategic matters. The discussion will focus on finding a time that is more conducive to holding this Gulf summit. Gulf officials believe that it is important to hold this summit at a time it can play a role in defining a suitable time and in creating a suitable atmosphere for the convening of the Arab summit. In other words, there are numerous contacts going on to determine whether to postpone or to delay the Gulf summit conference which is scheduled to be convened on 7 November.

An Arab diplomat visiting Riyadh said that what is currently taking place in the Saudi capital — in the current political moves — is within a joint Gulf strategy that was agreed upon during the ministerial meetings held recently in Riyadh and in other Gulf capitals, in addition to the meetings of ministers held in New York during the UN General Assembly session. This strategy is based on the need to solve a number of current Arab issues by agreeing on common denominators on issues causing Arab differences in order to reach some understanding that can ensure the success of the next summit.

This Arab diplomat believes that Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad, Kuwaiti deputy prime minister, foreign affairs minister, and information minister, has apparently devised a plan that can serve as the basis for the launching of a joint Arab initiative to end the Iraqi-Iranian war with the participation of four Arab countries which are Algeria, the UAE, Syria, and Libya, in addition to Kuwait.

BAHRAIN

Information Minister on Foreign News Agencies

GF251838 Manama WAKH in English 1535 GMT 25 Oct 83

[Text] Doha, 25 Oct (WAKH) — Media from every Gulf state will cover the fourth session of AGCC Supreme Council to be held in Doha in November.

"Every meeting of Gulf leaders will give us further interaction with the hope of accomplishing more", Bahrain's Information Minister Tariq 'Abd ar-Rahman al-Mu'ayyad said. Mr Al-Mu'ayyad told the Qatari weekly *Al-Ahd* that all Arab Gulf media agree in their foreign policy, calling on other Arab countries to benefit from this experiment. On the facilities granted by his ministry to local papers and foreign agencies stationed in Bahrain, Mr al-Mu'ayyad said that Bahrain is distinguished by having offices for international news agencies such as the REUTERS, AGENCE FRANCE PRESSE, DEUTCHE PRESS-AGENTUR [DPA] and the ASSOCIATED PRESS.

"We were striving to establish information offices in the big countries, but now we have the international agencies here in the region. They have a certain role to play which is to reflect the real image of our countries and the aspirations of our peoples and the efforts of our leaders in their search for the well-being of the Gulf citizens," Mr al-Mu'ayyad said.

On the information policy toward the Arab issues, mainly the Palestinian question, Mr al-Mu'ayyad said that the Arab League and its affiliate information offices, in addition to the Qatar-based Gulf Foreign Information Committee have a big role to play represented in arranging lectures and meetings that would further clarify the Arab issues abroad, Mr al-Mu'ayyad added.

On the establishment of a Gulf radio station or a television channel covering the whole region, Mr al-Mu'ayyad said that the Gulf states have transmitted joint programs prepared in Qatar and Kuwait. These Gulf evenings could be made into joint programs focusing on cultural programs having political meaning.

KUWAIT

France Plans To Supply Early Warning System

LD262009 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1811 GMT 26 Oct 83

[Text] Kuwait, 26 Oct (KUNA) — An official Kuwaiti statement here said that a Kuwaiti-French contract has been signed today that specifies supplying Kuwait with electronic French equipment for an early warning system "that is in accordance with the most modern system." The French chief of staff visited the Gulf country earlier this month. There is no official information yet concerning the conditions and value of the contract, which was signed by Kuwaiti Minister of Defense Shaykh Salim Sabah as-Salim.

Damascus-Baghdad Shuttle Efforts To Be Postponed

LD241136 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1029 GMT 24 Oct 83

[Excerpts] Kuwait, 24 Oct (SPA) — Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal left Kuwait today for home after meeting with the amir of Kuwait. Prince Sa'ud added that he discussed "all current Arab issues" with his Kuwaiti counterpart, and affirmed that their views "are identical." He expressed his hope that the efforts being exerted by both countries, which stem from a sincere and honest goodwill for rallying the ranks, will find the desired response from the other Arab countries so that we may continue with our work and achieve success.

Asked if there is any new move in the making, Prince Sa'ud said: "I cannot call this a new move, for it is only a continuation of the efforts exerted, which we hope God will make successful."

KUNA has learned that Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad and Prince Sa'ud will not resume their shuttle between Damascus and

Baghdad until after the GCC summit conference scheduled to be held in Doha on 7 November.

U.S. Treasury Secretary Arrives on Visit

LD262059 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1816 GMT 26 Oct 83

[Text] Kuwait, 26 Oct (KUNA) — U.S. Secretary of the Treasury Donald Regan arrived here this evening on a 2-day visit to Kuwait. It is expected that Mr Regan will hold talks with Kuwaiti officials during his visit concerning the development of bilateral cooperation.

OMAN

Foreign Ministry Official Leaves for FRG

GF240805 Salalah Domestic Service in Arabic 0700 GMT 24 Oct 83

[Excerpt] Foreign Affairs Ministry Under Secretary Sayf ibn Hamad ibn Battashi today left for the FRG on a visit that will last several days. In a predeparture statement to radio and television correspondents he said that his visit to the FRG comes within the framework of cooperation between the two countries, and that during the visit he will head the Sultanate delegation to the second meeting of the Omani-FRG Joint Committee. He indicated that the two sides will discuss matters dealing with the economic and technical cooperation between the two friendly countries.

QATAR

U.S. Forces' Activities in Grenada Criticized

GF261136 Doha QNA in Arabic 0630 GMT 26 Oct 83

[Text] Doha, 26 Oct (QNA) — Two Qatari newspapers denounced the U.S. forces' invasion of Grenada in the Caribbean yesterday. They also warn against the dangers of the return to undermining the principles of international legitimacy by returning to the method pursued by the old colonial empires. The two papers warn the United States against resorting to a similar invasion of Lebanon under the same pretexts and claims.

Ar-Rayah refutes America's claim that it is a democratic state, a principle that contradicts with its actual practices. Under the title "The Democratic Invasion" the paper says: "It is certain that the meaning of the word 'invasion' completely contradicts the meaning of the word 'democracy' as conventionally understood since the evolution of this word during the time of ancient Greek philosophers. Modern U.S. philosophers have, however, succeeded in introducing new meanings to democracy and went on implementing their invented concepts in many locations on the world's map." The paper adds that the Americans have implemented these concepts with their hands, through their armies at times and through their agents at other times such as is happening here in our Arab region that is suffering from the invasions of the Zionist agents who implement U.S. policies.

The newspaper warns that what concerns the Arabs about the U.S. invasion of Grenada is that every Arab should understand that the philosophy of military force, which the United States has been resorting to through its armies and through its agents, has undermined the principles of international legitimacy and international law and that force has become the language of integrity according to the American way. The paper warns the United States against applying the same military method and savage democracy in any Arab country under the pretext of reinforcing law and order and protecting democracy in the same manner pursued by the ancient colonial powers.

Ar-Rayah concludes its editorial by saying that the invasion of Grenada is America's message to the Arab people transmitted to them through the Lebanese channel tomorrow or the day after tomorrow.

Al-'Arab warns against a U.S. invasion of Lebanon similar to the one that its forces carried out in Grenada yesterday. Under the title "The U.S. Agression from Beirut to Grenada," the paper says: "Since the explosion in the headquarters of the U.S. forces in Beirut, the U.S. Administration has been moving in the direction of embroiling the countries participating in the Multinational Force in Lebanon in what will certainly be of a military nature."

The paper adds: "The Reagan administration has not been content with issuing threats, but it is moving in order to create a dangerous situation that the other international forces comprising the Multinational Force will take part in escalating. This means that Lebanon will pass through a dangerous stage if the U.S. aggressive policy proceeds in this manner."

The newspaper goes on to say that the U.S. attempt to polarize some European countries with the aim of carrying out a joint action against Lebanon and its people means internationalizing the conflict in a dangerous manner, which is exactly what the U.S. Administration is seeking to achieve. The newspaper warns that the invasion of Grenada yesterday by the United States may be repeated in Lebanon through the reinforcement of the U.S. military presence there.

At the conclusion of its editorial, *Al-'Arab* says what Washington should continue to bear in mind is the fact that Beirut, its struggling masses, and its giant Nationalist Forces will turn Lebanon into another Vietnam.

SAUDI ARABIA

'UKAZ Explores Motives for Beirut Bombings

PM261255 Jidda 'Ukaz in Arabic 24 Oct 83 p 3

[Political editor's "Observer's View" column: "Who Is Behind the Beirut Massacre?"]

[Text] Yesterday's bloody incidents in Beirut raise more than one question: Who perpetrated the bombing of the U.S. Marines' headquarters and the headquarters of the French unit in the Lebanese capital? Who would benefit from this tragic incident?

Why was this time in particular chosen to carry out this action, and what is the expected reaction?

To every such question there is more than one answer in the mind of observers, but the fact on which the observers unanimously agree is that what happened harms Lebanon's interest more than anything else.

Looking for the reasons or motives behind this incident might help in revealing the identity of the perpetrator and the party that has an interest in arousing alarm and escalating tension in Lebanon. Preliminary analysis indicates that the massacre of the Marines and the French unit in Beirut was aimed at many things, including: First, attempting to emphasize that the United States cannot play an effective role alone in resolving the Lebanese crisis, and that it is incapable of fulfilling its commitments and obligations toward Lebanon; second, undermining the [projected] conference of Lebanese national reconciliation dialogue and keeping the situation as it is; third, arousing U.S. public opinion to exert pressure for the withdrawal of the U.S. forces from Lebanon, as well as arousing Western public opinion and creating fears about a large-scale U.S.-Western involvement in Lebanon; fourth, attempting to escalate the conflict on Lebanese territory and to internationalize it.

A serious factor in the incident is that it took place a few days after President Reagan accused Syria of obstructing the solution of the Lebanese crisis and hinted at using the U.S. naval force off the Lebanese coast and giving the Marines greater freedom in responding to any attack on them.

It will not be surprising if the perpetrators of the massacre have exploited this situation in order to create the impression that Syria is behind this action. But reality and logic do not support this idea, for it is not in Syria's interest to escalate the situation to a dangerous level that might lead to a U.S.-Syrian confrontation that would open the way to internationalizing the conflict in the area at a time when the U.S. Administration had begun to understand Syria's role and interest in the Lebanese crisis.

We do not think that Palestinian elements committed this action, which might be taken as an excuse to strike at the Palestinian forces and liquidate them, thus causing the loss of the Palestinian cause.

Also, it is illogical that any Lebanese party would commit an action that would intensify and escalate the conflict in Lebanon and, therefore, undermine the opportunity for a national dialogue that all the Lebanese sides have supported and that was scheduled to begin in Geneva tomorrow.

Therefore, the operation could only be the work of a certain party which is anxious to assert that neither the United States nor the West in general is capable of playing a strong role in Lebanon at the expense of the party concerned and to prove that there is another power whose interests and ability to influence events and to meet the U.S. and Western challenge cannot be ignored.

The incident could point out to the possibility that the Israeli Mossad could be behind the massacre. Creating a state of chaos could indeed create an opportunity for Israel to deal a military blow against the Syrian, Palestinian, and Lebanese forces and therefore realize Israel's desire to perpetuate and maybe expand its occupation of southern Lebanon.

But facts indicate that Israel is not so naive as to risk its interests and the source of its support by dealing a direct blow to the U.S. forces in Lebanon. Therefore the perpetrator is the party which has an interest in maintaining the explosive situation in Lebanon. It is the party which, by dealing this blow, wanted to test the reaction of the United States and the West and to say that there is a limit to which the display of U.S. strength in the area can go.

It remains to be said that an operation of such magnitude and sophistication could only be the work of elements or agents working in the interest of a big power.

U.S. Treasury Secretary Continues Visit

Meets Ministers

LD262323 Riyadh SPA in English 1218 GMT 26 Oct 83

[Text] Riyadh Oct 26, SPA — Visiting U.S. Treasury Secretary Donald Regan conferred here today with Saudi Commerce Minister Dr Sulayman as-Sulayyim on ways of enhancing cooperation between the two countries in joint projects.

Dr as-Sulayyim said the meeting centred on showing the Kingdom's concern to see international markets open for Saudi petrochemical products in which Saudi Arabia "has invested huge funds." The meeting also dealt with freedom of trade through international waterways and lanes.

Mr Regan stressed the U.S. interest to secure navigation in Hormuz Straits as vital for continuing oil and vital Gulf imports to the West. Later, Regan met with Saudi Planning Minister Hisham Nazir who said the meeting concentrated on the international economic situation and its impact on the two countries' economies. The deliberations also dealt with the Kingdom's development strategy and the need for securing the best degree of training and services for Saudi citizens. The gathering also gave much concern to the importance of encouraging inflow of Saudi industrial exports in the U.S. markets, and Mr Regan showed much interest to realise this goal, Nazir said. The visiting minister also expressed his admiration over the big progress achieved by the Kingdom in all fields, Nazir added.

Confers With King Fahd

LD261223 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1055 GMT 26 Oct 83

[Text] Riyadh, 26 Oct (SPA) — This afternoon at Al-Ma'dar Palace, His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz received U.S. Treasury Secretary Donald Regan and his accompanying delegation. Present were His Royal Highness Crown Prince 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, deputy prime minister and commander of the national guard; His Royal Highness Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, second deputy premier and minister of defense and aviation; and Finance and Economy Minister Muhammad Aba al-Khayl.

Leaves for Kuwait

LD262053 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1515 GMT 26 Oct 83

[Text] Riyadh, 26 Oct (SPA) — U.S. Treasury Secretary Donald Regan left Riyadh this afternoon for Kuwait after having led the U.S. side in meetings of the joint Saudi-U.S. commission, which had ended earlier today. He was seen off at the airport by Minister of Finance and National Economy Muhammad Aba al-Khayl and a number of his staff.

Fahd Receives Visiting African Officials

GF252012 Riyadh Television Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 25 Oct 83

[Excerpts] His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz received Ahmed Qadira, the Moroccan king's adviser, who conveyed a letter from Moroccan King Hassan II. His Majesty also received Michel Salle, Central African Republic minister of state in charge of foreign affairs and international cooperation; and Guy Darlan, Central African Republic minister of planning and economic and finance cooperation [name and title as heard]. The minister of state in charge of foreign affairs and international cooperation conveyed a letter to King Fahd from General Andre-Dieudonne Kolingba, chairman of the Central African Military Committee of National Redress and head of state and government.

CAR Foreign Minister Denies Israeli Ties Plans

LD270944 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 0830 GMT 27 Oct 83

[Text] Jidda, 27 Oct (SPA) — Michel Salle, foreign minister of the Central African Republic, has confirmed that his country will not establish relations with the Zionist entity and that it supports the Arab countries and the rights of the Palestinian Arabs. In a statement to SPA before his departure today from Jidda at the end of his visit to the Kingdom, he confirmed the attitude of his country and its support for the Arab friends. He said this political stand results from his country's complete trust in the Arab nation. He denied rumors concerning the reestablishment of relations between Israel and some African countries. He expressed pleasure at the visit during which he met with His Majesty King Fahd and handed His Majesty a message from the president of the Central African Republic concerning relations between his country, the Kingdom, and the Gulf states. He added that his country strives to increase cooperation with the Kingdom and thanked the Kingdom for the aid it provided his country in various fields.

Kenyan President Moi Makes Official Visit

LD231417 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 23 Oct 83

[Excerpts] The Kenyan president, Daniel arap Moi, arrived in Jidda at 1300 on an official visit. Heading those who were waiting for his arrival was His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz. The Kenyan president, in his visit to the Kingdom, is accompanied by a delegation which consists of Elijah Mwangale, minister of foreign affairs; Nicholas Biwott, minister of energy; Professor George Saitoti, minister of finance and planning; Hussein Haji Muhammad, minister of state; Maina Wanjigi, minister of tourism and wildlife; and Philip Leakey, assistant minister at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Kenyan President Departs

GF241448 Jidda Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 24 Oct 83

[Excerpt] Kenyan President Daniel arap Moi left Jidda for home at 1345 today. Among those who saw him off was His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz.

Ambassador Presents Credentials to Reagan

GF251417 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 25 Oct 83

[Text] Prince Bandar ibn Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz presented his credentials to U.S. President Ronald Reagan yesterday as the Saudi ambassador to Washington. President Reagan and Prince Bandar held talks on this occasion, during which His Highness expressed his extreme regret over the two explosions in Beirut the day before yesterday. He also expressed condolences to the U.S. President on the deaths of the U.S. Marines.

Following the ceremony, Prince Bandar ibn Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz met with Robert McFarlane, President Reagan's adviser for national security, and a comprehensive discussion was held between them on the recent developments in the Middle East.

UAE

U.S. Intervention in Grenada, Lebanon Scored

GF261000 Abu Dhabi WAM in Arabic 0700 GMT 26 Oct 83

[Excerpts] Abu Dhabi, 26 Oct (WAM) — UAE newspapers have continued attacking the U.S. policy in the Arab region and in various parts of the world. The papers denounce the method of threatening with fleets and deployment of warships.

In its editorial today, *Al-Ittihad* says that when Henry Kissinger, former U.S. secretary of state, calls for U.S.-Israeli cooperation against Syria, when U.S. moves are made in the manner witnessed yesterday with a flow of threats to reply, avenge, and dicipline, and when the United States invades the island of Grenada like it did yesterday, messages are then clear and obvious and it would be a mistake to disregard them or put them aside. The paper likens the atmosphere prevailing in the capitals of the United States, France, and Britain to the events that preceded the tripartite aggression against Egypt in 1956, with a difference in roles. The paper concludes its editorial by stressing that striking here and there will not break the siege because it is not directed against a person or a ruler but against a policy that needs to be revised. Thus any step in the wrong direction will not bring life back to the U.S. soldiers killed but may even threaten the lives of many more and open doors of danger to Reagan, the United States, and the region that benefit no one at all.

The newspaper *Al-Khalij* says that the United States, with what it is doing and what is intends to do in the region, as its President said in the wake of the explosion in Beirut, and with what it has done in Grenada, proves that it has entered a new age in its policies and its international relations, the age of gangsterism and overt intervention in order to explode the international situation and impose hegemony with brute force.

The paper stresses in its editorial that when the U.S. fleets move toward Grenada — whose area and income are small — for nothing save for the fact that some internal incidents took place within it expressing a dispute within government, the event confirms the U.S. desire to do anything in any direction in order to reinforce the Reagan administration's position and prove the truthfulness of what President Reagan announced when he assumed power that he would restore his country's gravity and force the entire world to respect it.

The paper concludes its editorial by warning that the U.S. threat has become tangible and material and that Grenada, which resisted, irrespective of the result, does not exceed the size of a small Arab town in area. So, will we agree to kneel to the U.S. blackmail, hegemony, and threats?

AS-SIYASAH Interviews UAE's Khalifah ibn Zayid

GF212000 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1800 GMT 21 Oct 83

[Interview with Shaykh Khalifah ibn Zayid, heir apparent and deputy commander in chief of the Armed Forces in the UAE, by *As-Siyasah* — no place or date of interview given in WAKH report]

[Excerpt] */As-Siyasah/* Concerning the threats to close the Gulf and destroy its ports, is there any precautionary plan to confront such matters now or in the future?

[Zayid] We view the Iraqi-Iranian war with utmost concern and feel that this bloody fight which has entered its fourth year between two Muslim countries is exhausting much of the material and human resources that could be saved in order to bolster the Gulf, Arab, and Islamic weight at the confrontation front with the Zionist enemy. Thus, the GCC countries have moved anddispatched their envoys to Baghdad and Tehran realizing the importance of reaching an agreement between the two warring parties so as to stop the war between them and help stop the danger that is threatening the region.

However, danger has not gone far from the region and new circumstances have emerged in the Gulf arena, foremost of which is what has been reported by news agencies as the threat to close the Strait of Hormuz. The fact is that this region is an international passageway that no one has the right to close. We cannot minimize the seriousness of this threat, which does not serve the region as a whole and which harms Iran with which we are linked through the ties of fraternity and neighborhood.

In our assessment, the government and peoples of this region, who share profound historical ties, will put reason and logic above all other matters in order to restore the situation to what it was before and deal with it consciously and cautiously so as to pass through this critical stage, prevent any ambitious one to impose his hegemony on this region, and proceed toward the security and stability that we all aspire to achieve.

But as for the existance of a precautionary plan to confront any threats to close the Gulf, it can be said that the leaders of the GCC state are in continuous contact and consultation regarding all important and fatal issues that are of interest to the region in order to avert harm, close doors in the face of wind, bear our responsibilities, and defend our interests.

PDRY

Chairman Denounces U.S. 'Invasion' of Grenada

GF262032 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 26 Oct 83

[Text] Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee and chairman of the Supreme People's Council, and chairman of the Council of Ministers, has expressed his denunciation and condemnation of the U.S. military invasion of Grenada.

He also expressed the solidarity of the YSP, of the Yemeni people, and of the PDRY Government with the people of Grenada in confronting the invasion forces and in foiling their plans.

While receiving in his office today the Cuban ambassador in Aden Ulises Estrada, Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad stressed that this U.S. invasion of Grenada is regarded a grave precedent in the current age, and this action should be denounced, opposed, and condemned on the international level.

He pointed out that collaboration by any side with this invasion is regarded a flagrant violation of international law, of the people's right to freedom, and of national sovereignty.

He also stressed the need for the United Nations and world public opinion to undertake the necessary measures that will force the invasion forces to withdraw from Grenada immediately.

The brother secretary general also indicated that the PDRY will continue to support and to back the just and the legitimate struggle of the Central American and Caribbean countries in defense of their national [word indistinct], in addition to their right to be free, to develop, and to have social progress.

During the meeting, which took place in a cordial atmosphere, they reviewed a number of issues which deal with development of bilateral relations and friendship between the peoples of the two countries and the two friendly parties.

Foreign Affairs Ministry on Grenada Events

GF262100 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 26 Oct 83

[Text of statement issued on 26 October by Foreign Affairs Ministry — read by announcer]

[Text] With profound concern the PDRY has been following the developments of the situation in Grenada since the death of former Prime Minister Maurice Bishop until yesterday — 25 October — when a U.S. invasion force consisting of U.S. Marines landed on the beaches of Grenada. This force has occupied the most important government positions under the pretext of preserving the lives of the foreign civilians and restoring security and stability at the request of some Caribbean countries that sent small units to take part in this invasion. These pretexts are unjustifiable in international law and in international relations. This action violates the charters of the United Nations and of other international organizations. These pretexts can only be comprehended as a return to dated colonialist policies.

The PDRY denounces this imperialist armed invasion of the Republic of Grenada, which is another episode in a series of U.S. interference in the internal affairs of the Central American and the Caribbean countries that can be seen as political, economic, and political pressures. The United States resorted to instituting these pressures in the framework of its aggressive and conspiratory practices against the progressive regimes in Cuba and Nicaragua with the aim of oppressing the struggle of the peoples of Latin America against dictatorships and fascism.

That which is currently taking place in the Republic of Grenada is regarded as part of the U.S. Nazi aggression being repeated in various parts of the world, particularly in the Middle East and in Western Europe where the United States, together with its allies, is escalating the policies of aggression and expansionism by sowing tension and escalating the arms race, in addition to producing and deploying nuclear missiles in Europe, which could lead to a nuclear disaster that will destroy mankind.

As for the Middle East, the United States continues its flagrant support of Israel's aggressive and expansionist policy. Moreover, it encourages Israel to perpetuate its occupation of the Arab territories, practically participates with it in the occupation of Lebanese territories, and flagrantly conspires against the rights of the Arab Palestinian people and against the vital interests of our Arab people. It also cements its military aggressive presence in the Arab arena by establishing mobile bases designed to restore imperialist hegemony in the Arab region and to strike at the Arab liberation movement. This matter demands that our Arab peoples and their national and progressive powers undertake the responsibility of confronting the U.S. influence in the Arab region and of confronting its aggressive and expansionist plans.

The PDRY expresses its full denunciation of the U.S. imperialist invasion of the territories of Grenada. The PDRY expresses its struggle solidarity with the people of Grenada, who are currently resisting the imperialist invaders in defense of their freedom and the sovereignty of their land. The PDRY urges the governments and the peoples of the world and the freedom-and-peace-loving nations to express their opposition to this aggression, to denounce it, and to demonstrate their support of the Grenadan people. The PDRY also demands that the UN Security Council and the UN General Assembly denounce this armed aggression and work in the direction of bringing about the withdrawal of this U.S. force from Grenada and ensuring the freedom of the Grenadan people to choose their own method of independent development in accordance with the UN charter.

Foreign Minister Congratulates Gromyko

GF262052 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 26 Oct 83

[Text of congratulatory cable sent by Foreign Affairs Minister 'Abd al-'Aziz ad-Dali to Andrey Gromyko, member of the CPSU Politburo, Soviet deputy chairman, and foreign affairs minister, on the fourth anniversary of signing the friendship and cooperation agreement between the PDRY and Soviet Union]

[Text] It pleases me to congratulate you on the occasion of the fourth anniversary of the signing of the friendship and cooperation agreement between our two countries, which was a significant turning point in the course of the struggle relations between the YSP and the CPSU and between the two friendly peoples and countries.

This agreement has greatly contributed to the development of the cooperation relations toward higher and more comprehensive horizons, and experience has proven the rightness of the goals of the agreement that are an expression of the hopes and ambitions of our peoples and the peoples of the Arab region and have demonstrated the great importance of Arab-Soviet relations.

We are sure that these relations will witness greater development in various fields on the basis of the joint struggle against the imperialists and in order to establish a firm basis for peace, socialism, and social progress in the world.

Let me, dear friend, take this opportunity to personally express my best wishes to you for your continued good health and happiness.

GDR Party Delegation Arrives in Aden 25 October

GF251756 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 25 Oct 83

[Text] A delegation of the Central Party Control Commission of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany, headed by Werner Moke, member of the Central Party Control Commission of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany, arrived in Aden this morning on a visit to our country that will last several days. During this visit the delegation will meet with a number of leaders in the YSP to discuss questions of cooperation between the two parties. The visit of the GDR delegation is made in accordance with the party cooperation protocol signed between the YSP and Socialist Unity Party of Germany.

YAR

President Salih Calls Iraqi President Husayn

GF251206 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 24 Oct 83

[Text] Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the Republic, commander in chief of the Armed Forces, and the secretary general of the General People's Congress, telephoned his brother Saddam Husayn, president of Iraq today.

SABA' NEWS AGENCY has learned that the telephone call focused on the urgent basic issues which concern the two countries, the two fraternal peoples, and the Arab nation in light of the developments in the Gulf region and the recent developments in the Iraq-Iran war. The agency added that the Iraqi president informed the brother leader of the developments at the war front bebtween Iraq and Iran and explained the (?flagrant) aggressive acts of intransigence against the Arab territories in fraternal Iraq. The agency also learned that brother leader 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih stressed to his brother the Iraqi president the constant and principled position of our country toward this war.

Reportage on Reaction to Beirut Explosions

Foreign Minister Condemns Bombings

PM261303 Cairo Al-Ahram in Arabic 24 Oct 83 p 1

[Unattributed report: "Egypt Condemns Lebanon Explosions, Urges Restraint"]

[Text] Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali has stated that Egypt condemns the bloody explosions which occurred in Lebanon yesterday as well as all actions which threaten peace and stability and prevent settlement of the Lebanese and Middle East problems.

This incident, he added, confirms the need for efforts to bring about immediate progress and the settlement of the region's explosive issues.

In reply to a question about the attitude of the two superpowers, 'Ali said: I urge restraint and insistence on the courseof peace. This applies to these two states as well as all the parties concerned in the Middle East.

Kamal Hasan 'Ali has sent a cable of condolences to U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz and French External Relations Minister Claude Cheysson.

Foreign Ministry Holds Contacts

NC261451 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1345 GMT 26 Oct 83

[Text] Cairo, 26 Oct (MENA) — The Foreign Ministry today held important and urgent contacts with the United States and the countries participating in the Multinational Force in Lebanon so as to tackle the tense situation and the escalation of tension in Lebanon and the entire Middle East.

Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali stated that these contacts are aimed at expediting the efforts to solve the Lebanese and Palestinian problems, because stability in the area can only be achieved through prompt action to solve the Palestinian issue, which is the crux of the Middle East problem.

Dr Ghali said that in these contacts Egypt made it clear that the reasons behind the escalation of tension are the continued Israeli occupation of Lebanon and failure to implement the international resolutions on the Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon and to solve the Palestinian problem.

Meanwhile, the ad hoc committee formed in the Foreign Ministry to follow up the deteriorating situation in the area is still closely watching the situation and continually evaluating all current developments and possibilities.

It was learned that in addition to the message that Mubarak sent to Reagan this morning, Egypt will send messages to several heads of state to tackle the deteriorating situation in Lebanon.

Ghali Meets French Ambassador

NC261544 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1420 GMT 26 Oct 83

[Text] Cairo, 26 Oct (MENA) — During his meeting today with French Ambassador in Cairo Philippe Cuvillier, Dr Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs, reviewed the contacts currently being held by Egypt to tackle the tense situation in the Middle East and the recent Lebanese incidents.

During the meeting, Dr Ghali stressed the need to expedite the withdrawal of Israeli forces from Lebanon and the solution of the Palestinian issue, which is considered the crux of the Middle East problem and of the tension in the area.

Press on Beirut Attack

NC261537 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0525 GMT 26 Oct 83

[From the press review]

[Text] Cairo newspapers editorially discuss the horrible attack on the U.S. and French forces in Lebanon. Under the headline "Self-Restraint Is a First Step," *Al-Jumhuriyah* refers to President Mubarak's call for self-restraint on the blowing up of the U.S. and French headquarters in Beirut. The newspaper explains that many parties are trying to benefit from the current violent situation in Beirut and from the angry reaction the abominable operation provoked in the Western capitals.

Al-Jumhuriyah affirms that the superpowers' involvement of their forces in the area will not lead to peace but will drown the entire area in the wave of destruction Israel has begun in Lebanon.

Concluding, *Al-Jumhuriyah* says self-restraint is the first step toward removing the traces of the horrible Beirut operation. The second step is to reconsider the policy that has led to the involvement of the superpowers' forces in the area and to search seriously for a just and comprehensive solution that would respond to the rights of all parties.

Under the headline "Two Directions," *Al-Ahram* says: The horrible attack on the U.S. and French forces in Lebanon might push the internal events in one of two directions: Either it will totally defeat the current reconciliation efforts, or it will speed them up toward their desired objectives. *Al-Ahram* affirms that the entire situation is in the hands of the Lebanese themselves, and the incident and its significance are but a test of their ability to control their destiny and their country's future.

Under the headline "There Must Be Sincere Efforts for Peace," *Al-Akhbar* expresses the belief that the situation requires sincere efforts to establish peace. It calls on Egypt, which shoulders a historic responsibility in the Arab world,to make these efforts.

Al-Akhbar notes that the coming days will be difficult for the cause of security and peace because the United States, in an outburst of anger, will seek revenge. It is an overwhelming outburst of anger only equalled by the outburst of anger boiling in France, one aspect of which was the sudden arrival of French

President Mitterrand in Beirut, where he met with President al-Jumayyil and inspected the French contingent. Even though the French president managed to control his emotions and show more self-restraint than the U.S. President, he is in fact not less indignant than the U.S. President.

Concluding, *Al-Akhbar* affirms that the catastrophe, which was carried out and perpetrated by those who are working to destabilize security, has led to a change of attitudes in Lebanon. Undoubtedly, it has also hampered the cause of peace.

Further Newspaper Commentary

NC270854 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0625 GMT 27 Oct 83

[Text] Cairo, 27 Oct (MENA) — In their editorials today, *Al-Ahram* and *Al-Akhbar* continue commenting on the bombing of U.S. and French headquarters in Beirut, which left scores of victims. *Al-Akhbar* expresses the conviction that if events in Lebanon continue with this momentum on this course, they will eventually cause an international disaster. The paper asserts that the repetition of incidents in Lebanon, the many plots, and the ugly way in which they are engineered, and the repercussions, affirm that there are conspiracies. All this also affirms that there is a plan being implemented by those who harbor goals and objectives and are trying to destabilize the situation in the area and threaten the cause of peace in the Middle East.

Al-Ahram points out that increasing the U.S. presence in Lebanon with the aim of protecting the U.S. force will not prevent greater incidents against this force. Regarding U.S. alternatives in Lebanon following the bombing against the U.S. force, *Al-Ahram* says that stationing U.S. forces on the 6th Fleet ships near the Lebanese coasts and sending regular land and aerial patrols will not prevent repetition of uglier incidents, perhaps by mines or sea missiles, with the perpetrators being encouraged by their previous success. *Al-Ahram* warns that allowing the U.S. Marines greater freedom in securing themselves by taking control of new positions will necessarily involve them in the Lebanese war and will not protect them from surprise strikes. The paper says that the United States is embroiled in a predicament in Lebanon and its current alternatives are futile. The paper points out that the Lebanese arena is so mixed up that it is impossible to trace the lines of fighting to their real sources. Concluding its editorial, *Al-Ahram* expresses the conviction that there are parties seeking to embroil the U.S. forces in Lebanon, and harm the U.S. government and Reagan's prestige.

Columnist Sees Israeli Motives

PM270945 Cairo Al-Ahram in Arabic 25 Oct 83 p 7

[Salah Muntasir column "Mere Opinion": "Who Did It?"]

[Text] Everything is possible and likely.

When the Americans sit down to discuss the various likely parties behind the terrible explosions at the U.S. and French forces' headquarters in Lebanon they will find that there is more than one likely party.

It is likely that the Iranians present in Lebanon are behind the explosion, which could be a response to the hard line the United States recently adopted against the Iranian leaders, who had threatened to block the Strait of Hormuz and throttle the world economy.

It is also likely that the Syrians are behind the explosions with the aim of easing the pressure being exerted on them to withdraw from Lebanon and of convincing all the parties that, however strong they may be, they cannot impose a solution unacceptable to Syria.

It is likely that the Palestinians are also behind the explosions, particularly since the dilemma they are facing and the disruption from which they are suffering could prompt some of them to a commit mad action.

It is likely that the Druze are behind the explosions in response to the U.S. Navy's shelling of their positions in Ash-Shuf.

There are also the Soviets and the likelihood that they are behind the operation with the aim of undermining U.S. prestige in the area and pushing the United States into withdrawing under pressure on the U.S. leadership from families of the victims or from the American people, who suffer from the Vietnam complex.

The parties the United States may suspect are many. But, nevertheless, is it not possible that Israel more than anybody else is directly or indirectly behind the operation?

The simultaneous bombing of the U.S. and French headquarters means that whoever is behind the operation wants to push the two countries into an immediate act of revenge exactly as happened following the assassination of President Bashir al-Jumayyil, when things culminated in the Sabra and Shatila massacre. Even the investigation that Israel itself conducted could not conceal the criminal instigation and encouragement by Israel in the perpetration of this massacre.

There is every indication that Israel suffered human and economic losses as a result of its picnic which turned into involvement in the Lebanese quagmire.

Israel would like to see a greater U.S. involvement in this quagmire in the hope that this will ease the pressure on it. It is even better if this involvement becomes both American and French.

Mubarak Meets Atherton, Sends Message to Reagan

NC261436 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1400 GMT 26 Oct 83

[Text] Cairo, 26 Oct (MENA) — President Muhammad Husni Mubarak received at the Al-'Urubah Palace this morning U.S. Ambassador in Cairo Alfred Atherton.

Following the 30-minute meeting, Atherton said that President Mubarak delivered a message to him for U.S. President Ronald Reagan. Asked whether the discussion dealt with the invasion of Grenada, Atherton said they did not speak about this subject.

Dr Mamduh al-Biltaji, head of the General Information Department, said that President Mubarak's message to President Reagan deals with the recent developments in the area, especially the Beirut incident. He added that the message also contains President Mubarak's view that President Reagan's [Middle East peace] initiative should be revived, that Israel should withdraw from Lebanon in order to start the reconciliation, and that the other foreign forces should withdraw from Lebanese territory.

'Ali on Mubarak's Meeting With Advisers 26 Oct

NC261058 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1010 GMT 26 Oct 83

[Text] Cairo, 26 Oct (MENA) — President Husni Mubarak decided today to hold urgent contacts with some Arab countries and some of the countries that participate in the Multinational Force in Lebanon. This move might take place today through diplomatic channels.

This was stated by Kamal Hasan 'Ali, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, following the meeting which President Husni Mubarak held today with his political advisers to discuss the situation in the Middle East, particularly following the recent grave incidents against the Multinational Force in Beirut.

Kamal Hasan 'Ali said: The analysis of the situation in Lebanon shows that it needs further self-restraint, reactivation of the positive move toward the peace issue, and solution of the area's problems represented by both the Lebanese and Palestinian issues.

Asked if Egypt will send an official to participate in the meeting that the foreign ministers of the states participating in the Multinational Force are currently holding in Paris, Kamal Hasan 'Ali said: I believe it is not appropriate to do this at a time when these foreign ministers are discussing an urgent topic pertaining to their joint peace-keeping forces, their protection, and their function.

Asked if there were Arab statements or a move with regard to the [Beirut] incidents, the deputy prime minister and foreign minister said: As far as I know there have been statements by Arab officials concerning the reactivation of Arab contacts and convocation of the Arab summit. However, we have not yet been officially informed of these. President Mubarak's meeting with his political advisers lasted for about 75 minutes.

Minister's Statement on 26 Oct Cabinet Meeting

NC261702 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 26 Oct 83

[Statement by Safwat ash-Sharif, minister of state for information, on 26 October Cabinet meeting — recorded]

[Excerpt] At the outset of the Cabinet meeting today, the prime minister set the dates for the meetings of the Consultative Council and the People's Assembly. The Consultative Council will hold its first session on 1 November. It will be a procedural session to elect a speaker, deputy speakers, and heads of the council's committees. The People's Assembly will also hold a procedural session on 5 November for the same purpose.

On Sunday, 6 November, President Muhammad Husni Mubarak will address a joint meeting of the People's Assembly and the Consultative Council. The NDP Parliamentary body will meet on Saturday, 5 November, under President and NDP leader Muhammad Husni Mubarak.

The Cabinet then discussed the topics on the agenda. The prime minister reviewed the external situation. He noted that in the past 2 weeks Cairo witnessed wide-scale activity represented by the visits of Tanzanian President Nyerere, Somali President Siad Barre, and Romanian President Ceausescu. The prime minister reviewed the outcomes of these visits as well as the meetings and the talks which the three presidents held with President Mubarak.

The prime minister also reviewed recent developments in Lebanon and the escalation in the situation there. He said that the president met with the political group today. During the meeting, it was decided to send Deputy Prime Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali to Iraq and Jordan with special messages from President Husni Mubarak to the Iraqi president and to the King of Jordan with the aim of arriving at a clear Arab stand capable of dealing with the hot problems, including the Lebanese and Palestinian issues. President Muhammad Husni Mubarak also sent personal messages to the U.S., French, and Italian presidents appealing to them to exercise self-restraint in order to de-escalate the situation in the area and find solutions for the Palestinian and Lebanese issues.

The prime minister also explained that Dr Butrus Ghali will leave for Lebanon with a personal message to Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil from President Muhammad Husni Mubarak.

Afterward, the interior minister reviewed the domestic situation. He said that stability prevails in the domestic situation and he referred to the positive indicators of this and also to the socieconomic policy and the clear stands of the political leadership.

Ghali Receives Cuban Envoy on Grenada Events

NC261430 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1352 GMT 26 Oct 83

[Text] Cairo, 26 Oct (MENA) — Dr Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs, today received Cuban Ambassador in Cairo Luis Karakadze, who explained to him his government's stand opposing the intervention by the United States and six Caribbean states in Grenada. Dr Ghali explained to the Cuban ambassador that Egypt adheres to the principles of the UN Charter and the nonalignment resolutions issued regarding this question.

Foreign Ministry Source Comments

NC262117 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2056 GMT 26 Oct 83

[Text] Cairo, 26 Oct (MENA) — A responsible source at the Foreign Ministry stated that Cuban Ambassador to Cairo Luis Karakadze informed the Eygptian Government of the latest

developments of dangerous events taking place in Grenada.

The source added that the Arab Republic of Egypt is following these events closely and with interest. While it calls on the parties to maintain self-restraint, Egypt hopes that the conflict will be settled by peaceful means on the basis of the principles and aims of the UN Charter and the principles of the Nonaligned Movement.

Abu Nidal Members Arrested on Terrorism Charges

NC261515 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1440 GMT 26 Oct 83

[Text] Cairo, 26 Oct (MENA) — MENA has learned that the Supreme State Security Prosecution will release the bill of indictment in the middle of next week against the members of the Abu Nidal [Sabri al-Banna] Palestinian group who were arrested several weeks ago on charges of attempting to launch terrorist operations in Egypt, following the completion of the investigation with all defendants.

MENA has also learned that the investigations revealed that the terrorist operations the organization's members intended to carry out were aimed against U.S. and Israeli establishments in Cairo — as well as at tracing movements by certain officials working in the Israeli and American Embassies in Cairo — and against places American tourists reside in and frequent.

Counsellor Raja'i al-'Arabi, the State Security Prosecution attorney general, said the investigation revealed that the defendants aimed to trace the residences of certain Palestinian leaders who frequent Cairo and with whom they differ over the Palestinian issue. He said the investigation also revealed that these people received military training in terrorist operations and that some of them had started to hide a quantity of arms, bombs, and explosives in a distant area. The security forces, however, managed to seize the arms.

Canada's Foreign Secretary Pays 3-Day Visit

NC211836 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1700 GMT 21 Oct 83

[Excerpt] Cairo, 21 Oct (MENA) — Allan MacEachen, Canadian deputy prime minister and secretary of state for foreign affairs, arrived in Cairo this afternoon on a 3-day official visit to the Arab Republic of Egypt. Kamal Hasan 'Ali, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, Egyptian Ambassador to Canada Tahsin Bashir, and Canadian Ambassador in Cairo John Schioler received the Canadian guest at the airport.

'Ali made a speech welcoming the Canadian guest, saying this is MacEachen's second visit. The first visit was made in 1976. This visit, 'Ali continued, will promote the distinguished relations and friendship between the two countries and also boost their constant cooperation in all domains.

The canadian official expressed his happiness over visiting Egypt. He said close and developed relations bind Egypt and Canada in several spheres. We appreciate Egypt's steps for peace, he added. During the visit, he continued, the situation in the area and bilateral relations will be discussed.

Replying to a question about his visits to both Syria and Lebanon and on his view on the present situation in the Middle East following these visits, the Canadian minister said that he regards the situation as extremely complicated, and that there are no signs that a solution to the Lebanese crisis is at hand.

He mentioned that there is an agreement among the Lebanese parties to go to Geneva to hold a reconcilation conference and expressed hope that such a reconciliation will work out so as to pave the way to solving the Lebanese issue.

Replying to another question about the Israeli invasion of Lebanon, MacEachen said Canada is aginst the Israeli invasion of Lebanon. We hope that a withdrawal of Israeli troops from Lebanon will be carried out, he said. This should also be linked to other steps in the area, he pointed out.

MacEachen also indicated that his visit to the area is aimed at listening to the various viewpoints. I visited Lebanon and held talks today with Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil and Foreign Minister Elie Salim, he said.

Responding to a question about the Canadian role in Middle East peace, the Canadian deputy prime minister said: We do not have any direct role; we are in favor of U.S. President Reagan's initiative, which is the only current initiative and stands a good chance of becoming a basis for the peace process in the area.

The Canadian official affirmed his country's interest in bolstering its relations with Egypt and the area's states in all domains.

Meets Muhyi ad-Din

NC221959 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1945 GMT 22 Oct 83

[Text] Cairo, 22 Oct (MENA) — Prime Minister Dr Fu'ad Muhyi ad-Din received Allan MacEachen, Canadian secretary of state for external affairs, this evening. During the 1-hour meeting, they reviewed the situation in the Middle East, particularly the situation in Lebanon. During the meeting, which was attended by Dr Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs, they also discussed ways of consolidating cooperation in the technical, investment, and economic fields.

Meets With Ghali

NC221856 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1840 GMT 22 Oct 83

[Text] Cairo, 22 Oct (MENA) — Dr Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs, during talks today with Allan MacEachen, Canadian Secretary of state for external affairs, discussed the current developments in the Middle East in light of the continued Israeli occupation of Lebanese territory and the situation of the Palestinians in the West Bank. During the talks Ghali stressed the need to maintain the momentum to continue the peace process and encourage other Arab parties to join it. The talks also dealt with means of strengthening bilateral relations in various domains.

Talks Reported

NC231414 Cairo MENA in English 1248 GMT 23 Oct 83

[Text] Cairo, Oct 23 (MENA) — Egyptian-Canadian talks started today at the Foreign Ministry. Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali presided over the Egyptian side while the Canadian side was under Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Allan MacEachen.

The two foreign ministers had a tete-a-tete meeting during which they discussed various international issues with emphasis on the situation in Lebanon and the Palestinian cause. Members of the two countries' delegations joined later an expanded meeting.

The Egyptian and Canadian foreign ministers exchanged views on the deteriorating situation in Lebanon in light of the events there. They underlined the need to give momentum to the Palestinian issue and to peace in the Middle East. The two sides discussed the Iraq-Iran war, different African issues,and bilateral ties. They will hold another meeting tomorrow.

'Ali, MacEachen Banquet Speeches

NC221824 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1630 GMT 22 Oct 83

[Excerpts] Cairo, 22 Oct (MENA) — Kamal Hasan 'Ali, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, today called on the peace-loving countries to exercise their influence with the Israeli Government to reconsider its policy in the West Bank and Gaza Strip. He said the Israeli Government must demonstrate the necessary flexibility to enable the resumption of the peace process.

In a speech made during a banquet he hosted today in honor of Allan MacEachen, Canadian secretary of state for external affairs, 'Ali emphasized the Palestinian people's right to regain their legitimate rights, including their right to self-determination and to establish their independent entity on their land occupied in 1967 so that peace, reconciliation, and coexistence can replace wars, conflicts, and hatred.

'Ali said the Lebanese tragedy remains unsolved and this delays tackling the Palestinian problem. Despite the fact that all efforts are directed toward saving Lebanon, the peace process in the Middle East has stopped. We in Egypt have welcomed the cease-fire agreement in Lebanon as a step toward national reconciliation. Regrettably, the cease-fire is in danger and we urge the various parties in Lebanon to heed the voice of reason and wisdom. He also said: Our policy has been and still is to support the Lebanese Government and the withdrawal of Israeli forces according to a specific timetable. He asserted that an Israeli withdrawal will open the way and create an atmosphere conducive to the withdrawal of all other foreign forces from Lebanon.

'Ali pointed out that the peace which has been achieved between Egypt and Israel is part of a broader arrangement aimed at reaching a comprehensive peace in the Middle East. He stressed the need to find a solution to all aspects of the Palestinian issue as a condition for achieving a permanent and comprehensive peace in the area. He expressed his regret because Egypt's efforts to achieve this goal have not met with a response from Israel. Israel is continuing its practices in the West Bank and Gaza Strip as well as the policy of building illegal settlements. He said this policy constitutes a big obstacle in the way of peace and does not encourage other parties to participate in the autonomy talks.

'Ali added: On the eastern side of our Arab world, senseless bloodshed between Iraq and Iran has been going on for over 3 years. This bloodshed increases instability in the entire Middle East. He said Egypt believes that negotiations are the only way to settle this bloody conflict. He pointed out that on its part Iraq has expressed its readiness to enter negotiations to solve the problem. 'Ali called on the world to pressure Iran to sit down at the negotiating table.

'Ali described Egyptian-Canadian relations as excellent. He said bilateral relations cover several political, economic, trade, cultural, technological, and scientific spheres. He expressed Egypt's satisfaction with the way these relations are growing. He said President Mubarak's visit to Canada early this year and Canadian Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau's visit to Egypt in 1980 boosted these relations. He also said: We are looking forward to strengthenining these relations, which have encouraging opportunities to grow and benefit both sides. With our concerted efforts, we can reach new vistas to benefit both peoples, he addded.

MacEachen made a speech in which he praised bilateral relations and said Egypt enjoys stability under the leadership of President Husni Mubarak.

Maceachen also lauded the role Egypt has played and is still playing for peace in the Middle East. He said Canada supports Egypt's stand and encourages other parties to follow suit, adding: This is the mission I am carrying on this visit to the Middle East and during my talks with the various parties. He also said, in addition to the political aspects, there are various other activities between Egypt and Canada. He stressed Canada's commitment to participate in Egypt's 5-year plan. He said this is a living example of cooperation between our countries.

Meets Mubarak, Discusses Talks

NC221648 Cairo MENA in English 1610 GMT 22 Oct 82

[Text] Cairo, Oct. 22 (MENA) — President Husni Mubarak today received visiting Canadian Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Allan MacEachen. The meeting was attended by Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali, Canada's new Ambassador here John Schioler, and Egypt's Ambassador to Canada Tahsin Bashir.

Following the meeting the Canadian official described his talks with President Mubarak as excellent, adding that he listened to a comprehensive analysis on the Mideast developments from President Mubarak, who is well-versed in the area's problems.

Asked on whether the Reagan peace initiative was discussed, MacEachen said he hoped to do so with the Egyptian foreign minister as he did not discuss the initiative with President Mubarak.

Speaking of the Egyptian-Canadian ties, the Canadian deputy

premier described them as strong. He said that a considerable progress has been achieved in Egypt, since his last visit to Egypt in 1976. Details of the ambitious joint programmes would be discussed with the Egyptian ministers, he added.

MacEachen further said that President Mubarak did not make any particular demands regarding Canadian aid.

Answering questions on the Canadian aid to Egypt, Kamal Hasan 'Ali, deputy premier and foreign minister, said Egypt suffered from many internal problems and needed the support of its friends. He added that the talks between MacEachen and the Egyptian minister of investment today would tackle this subject.

Answering questions on the Egyptian-Arab ties Kamal Hasan 'Ali said that Egypt was not isolated from the Arab world, has lived all the problems of the area and contributed all its efforts to achieve peace and to solve the Lebanese issue. He further said that Egypt supported the Lebanese legitimacy, adding that Egypt had also contacts with other Arab countries; thus it is not isolated from the Arab world, Kamal Hasan 'Ali affirmed.

Asked to comment on President Husni Mubarak's recent statement on the need to hold a meeting between the Palestinian and the Jordanians to solve the Palestinian issue before it dies, Kamal Hasan 'Ali said that four days ago Yasir 'Arafat has himself said that it was necessary that he meets with King Husayn. Yet no new steps have been taken in this respect, Hasan 'Ali said.

On Egypt's conditions to send back its ambassador to Israel, Kamal Hasan 'Ali said that Egypt did not have conditions but rather believes that Israel must take a step towards its withdrawal from Lebanon to give momentum to the peace process in Lebanon and to peace in the area in general. He added that when Israel starts its withdrawal from Lebanon Egypt would be ready to send back its ambassador to Israel.

On the Canadian role in preserving peace in the area, Kamal Hasan 'Ali said that Canada could give a strong support to face the problems of the area, especially as Canada has good links with the U.S..

On the proposals he envisages to solve the Tabah problem, Kamal Hasan 'Ali said Egypt has to abide by the Egyptian and Israeli peace treaty which calls for conciliation and arbitration and that talks must continue to see how would this be achieved regarding Tabah. He underlined that Tabah was part of the Egyptian territory according to history and documents.

Loan To Purchase Locomotives

NC231510 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1330 GMT 23 Oct 83

[Text]Cairo, 23 Oct (MENA) — Egypt and Canada today signed an agreement under which the Canadian Agency for Development will provide a loan of 6.3 million Canadian dollars to finance the purchase of four diesel locomotives from the Canadian General Motors Company. The easy-term loan will be repaid over a period of 50 years, including a 10-year grace period, and without interest.

The agreement was signed on the Egyptian side by Dr Wajih Shindi, minister of international investment and cooperation, and on the Canadian side by Allan MacEachen, Canadian secretary of state for external affairs.

This agreement will be followed by another agreement under which the Canadian Exports Development Authority will provide 16 million Canadian dollars in credit to Egypt to purchase another 11 locomotives.

Dr Shindi stated that he and the Canadian secretary of state had discussed ways to strengthen the economic and technical cooperation between the two countries. The Canadian secretary of state for external affairs expressed his country's readiness to espand economic and technical cooperation with Egypt.

It is noteworthy that the Canadian Government had given the Egyptian Government over the past years economic aid totalling 323 million Canadian dollars on easy terms. It also contributed 80 million dollars to Egypt in 1983. The Canadian Government, through its financial organizations, also contributed 207 million dollars to Egypt's plan for renewing and replacing the Egyptian railways in past years.

MacEachen News Conference

JN231600 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 23 Oct 83

[Text] Talks between Kamal Hasan 'Ali, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, and Allan MacEachen, Canadian deputy prime minister and foreign minister, began here this morning. The Canadian-Egyptian talks dealt with international issues, particularly developments in the situation in the Middle East and various African issues. The two sides also discussed ways of bolstering bilateral relations between the two countries in various fields.

Allan MacEachen, Canadian deputy prime minister and foreign minister, held a news conference this afternoon in which he said that President Muhammad Husni Mubarak received him during his visit to Cairo. He also met with Prime minister Dr Fuad Muhyi ad-Din; Kamal Hasan 'Ali, deputy prime minister and foreign minister; and Dr Wajih Shindi, minister of international investment and cooperation. He said that during these meetings, they reviewed international issues, developments in the situation in the Middle East, the Lebanese crisis, and Egyptian-Canadian relations, which have become stronger in the present stage. He said that commercial exchange between the two countries amounted to $125 million. He also said that he offered Canadian contributions to several Egyptian projects. He added that Canada is willing to provide Egypt with a nuclear reactor. He said that the assistant director of the nuclear energy commission will arrive in Cairo shortly to hold discussions on nuclear cooperation between Egypt and Canada.

On the situation in the Middle East, the Canadian deputy prime minister said: During the Canadian-Egyptian talks, we expressed our deep concern over the continued establishment of Israeli settlements and called for withdrawal from the occupied territories. He said that Canada understands Egypt's position on

why the Egyptian ambassador has not returned to Israel. The Canadian deputy prime minister said that the situation in Lebanon was discussed today in light of the regrettable incident that took place. He said that Canada opposes such acts which claimed the lives of many persons. He expressed the sympathy and sorrow of his government to the families of the victims. He said that this incident confirms the futility of violence and bloodshed and the need to achieve stability in Lebanon.

The Canadian minister said that there was no alternative to expanding the U.S. role for achieving peace in the region. He said that the parties are willing to accept such a U.S. role, whether in the Lebanese crisis or the Arab-Israeli conflict.

The Canadian deputy prime minister will leave Cairo tomorrow at the end of his 3-day visit.

Minister Leaves 24 Oct

NC241508 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1430 GMT 24 Oct 83

[Text] Cairo, 24 Oct (MENA) — Allan MacEachen, Canadian deputy prime minister and secretary of state for external affairs, left Cairo for home today following a 3-day visit to Egypt. During the visit, the Canadian official held talks on the situation in the Middle East in light of current events. He also discussed ways of bolstering bilateral relations and signed a technical cooperation agreement with Egypt.

Briefs

Technical Cooperation With France — Cairo, Oct. 22 (MENA) — Egypt and France signed today an agreement for boosting technical cooperation in the field of electric industries, according to which France will extend technical experience and give right of manufacturing electric transformers for the first time in Egypt.

The agreement was signed by Mustafa Nasr, board chairman of "An-Nasr" Company for the manufacture of transformers and electric products and the board chairman of the French industries federation, who is currently visiting here. [Text] [Cairo MENA in English 1340 GMT 22 Oct 83 NC]

Communique Released on 25-26 Oct War Operations
JN261748 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 26 Oct 83

[Communique No 1,260 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 26 October 1983]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

It is not ye who slew them; it was God. [Koranic verse]

Our heroic Armed Forces, which fought fierce battles against the criminal Iranian enemy and emerged victorious, and which are now fighting at the borders of the sacred homeland in defense of people, sovereignty, and dignity, are capable — with God's help — of inflicting the gravest defeats and losses on the spiteful aggressors, dissipating the dreams of charlatan Khomeyni and his lunatic clique, and foiling with valor and complete viligance all the criminal hostile attempts. The results of the activities carried out in the operational sectors yesterday evening and today are as follows:

1. After midnight yesterday, an enemy force tried to approach the positions of one of our forward units in the heroic I Army Corps sector. Our valiant forces confronted it, clashed with it using all types of weapons, and forced it to flee, leaving behind a large number of dead, wounded, and destroyed weapons. Our forward units also engaged the enemy positions, troop concentrations, and weapons emplacements in the same sector, killing 65, wounding others, and destroying quantities of various types of weapons and military equipment.

2. Today our Air Force formations attacked the enemy positions, concentrations, and units opposite our forward units' positions in the I Army Corps sector, inflicting massive losses, destroying quantities of weapons and various military equipment, and setting fire to several enemy positions and hardware stockpiles. All our fighter planes returned safely to base, praise be to God.

3. Our helicopter gunships continued their violent raids against the enemy positions, troop concentrations, and vehicles in the northern sector of the battlefield all day today. They dealt strong and effective blows which inflicted losses on the enemy personnel and equipment and both hit and set fire to enemy vehicles, guns, and excavators. All our capable helicopter gunships returned safely to base, after carrying out 58 combat missions, praise be to God.

4. One of our forward units opened artillery fire on some enemy troops opposite our positions in the central sector of the battlefield, killing four and wounding others.

5. One was killed and one weapons emplacement destroyed east of Basra.

6. One infantry position and one hardware stockpile were destroyed in the Maysan sector.

7. Today the criminal Khomeyniite clique intermittently shelled Khurmal and (Shandari) and their suburbs with artillery, damaging some civilian establishments.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 26 October 1983

New Iranian Offensive Expected in Northern Sector
JN270831 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0738 GMT 27 Oct 83

[Text] Baghdad, 27 Oct (INA) — In today's issue, the newspaper *Al-Jumhuriyah* says that the Iranian regime has started pulling out some of the Iranian units on the front and massing them in the northern sector to mount a new attack against Iraq's borders. An officer in the I Army Corps told the *Al-Jumhuriyah* correspondent that the new Iranian attack will meet with a fate worse than the previous attacks which began on the night of 19 October and in which the Iranians lost 20,000 men. The officer said that the I Army Corps units' morale is very high and their ability is further enhanced. They are ready to destroy all the new attacks in the same way as they have destroyed five Iranian divisions on the outskirts of Panjwin over the past few days.

'Harder, Fiercer' Strikes Against Iran Threatened
PM261326 London Ash-Sharq Al-Awsat in Arabic 25 Oct 83 pp 1,2

[Qasim as-Samawi report: "Iraqi Warning to Iran: New Iranian Attack, Fierce Battles in the North"]

[Excerpt] Baghdad — The Iraq-Iran war yesterday entered a new phase following the attempt by the Iranian forces to develop the offensive against Panjwin at dawn. This development came in accordance with the Iraqi military command's expectations and after 2 days of relative quiet in the fighting.

Latest reports indicate that the Iraqi forces are repelling the attack with all types of weapons and defending their positions and country. Iraqi sources have been quoted as saying that just as Iraq used sea mines and surface-to-surface missiles to punish Iran, it might, in a matter of a few hours or days, use one of its new destructive weapons against selected new targets inside Iran. In this regard "authoritative" diplomatic sources told *Ash-Sharq Al-Awsat*: Any attack on Iraq will not go unpunished. We have told them this more than once. Frankly, we will direct our anger against specific targets inside Iran, and in the meantime we will repel attacks on our borders and pursue the attackers without hesitation. The sources added: Our future strikes will be even harder and fiercer. We will be justified in doing so after we have exhausted all means of ending the war by peaceful means.

Egypt's 'Ali Minister Meets 'Aziz, Saddam Husayn
NC270628 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2316 GMT 26 Oct 83

[Text] Baghdad, 26 Oct (MENA) — Tariq 'Aziz, the Iraqi deputy prime minister and foreign minister, this evening held a dinner

banquet in honor of Kamal Hasan 'Ali, the Egyptian deputy prime minister and foreign minister. The banquet was attended by a number of Iraqi officials and members of the Egyptian interests mission in Baghdad.

'Ali visited Baghdad today, delegated by President Muhammad Husni Mubarak, for consultations with senior Iraqi officials on the developments of the current situation and the future of Arab action.

During his lightning visit to the Iraqi capital, 'Ali met with Iraqi President Saddam Husayn and Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Tariq 'Aziz.

It has been learned that President Saddam Husayn gave 'Ali, during his meeting with him this evening, a personal message to President Husni Mubarak in reply to his excellency's message which the Egyptian foreign minister conveyed to him.

President Mubarak's message to President Saddam Husayn dealt with the close brotherly relations between Iraq and Egypt, the current Arab conditions, and the responsibilities which the Arab leaderships (?bear) in these circumstances.

It has been learned that 'Ali reviewed with the Iraqi president the dimensions of the activity which Egypt is currently undertaking, its evaluation of all aspects of the situation in the Middle East, Egypt's view of the general situation in the area, and Egypt's interest in the need for achieving Arab solidarity in order to confront the dangers facing the Arab nation. During his meeting with 'Ali, President Saddam Husayn expressed his profound appreciation for President Husni Mubarak and his initiative and praised Egypt's (?constant) efforts for its Arab sisters.

The Iraqi president explained to the Egyptian foreign minister the situation on the Iraqi-Iranian front in detail and Iraq's view and assessment of the general Arab situation and the situation in Lebanon.

'Ali met upon his arrival in Baghdad with Tariq 'Aziz and discussed the bilateral relations between the two fraternal countries, the situation in the Arab area, and the latest developments in the Iranian aggression against Iraq.

'Ali is being accompanied on his lightning visit to Iraq — which will be followed by a similar visit to Jordan within the framework of the mission entrusted to him by President Husni Mubarak — by Ministers Plenipotentiary at the Foreign Ministry Ahmad Abu al-Ghayt and Mahmud al-Jawwal.

'Ali is due to leave Baghdad tomorrow morning.

Leaves for Amman

JN271056 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1015 GMT 27 Oct 83

[Excerpt] Baghdad, 27 Oct (INA) — Kamal Hasan 'Ali, Egyptian deputy prime minister and foreign minister, left Baghdad at noon today for Amman after a short visit to Iraq.

Vice President Calls for Gulf Cooperation

JN261640 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1500 GMT 26 Oct 83

[Excerpts] Baghdad, 26 Oct (INA) — Iraqi Vice President Taha Muhyi ad-Din Ma'ruf has said that cooperation and coordination in the field of labor among the Arab Gulf states will foil the plans of those who try to interfere in these states' affairs and will hamper their cultural march.

In a statement here today during his reception of the heads of the delegations participating in the sixth session of the committee of the labor and social affairs experts in the Arab Gulf states, Ma'ruf stressed the need to develop cooperation and coordination among the Arab Gulf states for the sake of an active Gulf society and for a new civilization that can contribute to the realization of the Arab nation's goals.

He also emphasized that the racist Iranian regime and international Zionism fear the existing solidarity and the continued coordination among the Gulf states. He said they tried their luck and chose Iraq this time, but they forgot or ignored the fact that Iraq would remain a loyal guard of the Arab homeland's eastern border whatever the price may be. He also expressed Iraq's pride in its brothers in the Arab Gulf who support Iraq and stand with it out of their belief in common destiny.

Ma'ruf also said that the Iranian regime is now desperate and threatening, especially since its failure to cross Iraq's eastern border, to close the Arab Gulf and to spread confusion and economic destruction outside Iran, which this regime has destroyed and ruined. He also called for further solidarity to foil this aggressive and fierce plan against the Arab Gulf states.

Economic Cooperation Pact With UAE Signed

JN261954 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1630 GMT 26 Oct 83

[Text] Baghdad, 26 Oct (INA) — Iraq and the UAE signed joint minutes here tonight at the conclusion of the second session of the two countries' joint committee for economic and trade cooperation. Abu Talib 'Abd al-Muttalib, Iraqi trade under secretary, and 'Abd ar-Rahman Sa'id al-Ghanim, UAE economy and trade under secretary, signed the minutes.

The minutes provide for promoting the fields of economic, trade, and financial cooperation between the two countries' institutions and companies; exchanging visits by trade and economic delegations; offering training in Iraqi institutes with the UAE benefiting from Iraq's experience in the field of agricultural and banking laws and regulations; and holding the joint committee's third session in Abu Dhabi in the last quarter of next year.

'Abd al-Muttalib and Ghanim exchanged cordial words on the occasion and expressed the two fraternal countries' intention to continue the march of economic cooperation in the service of Arab economic integration and the Arab nation's fateful issues.

Reportage on Beirut Bomb Blasts 23 Oct

Description of Blasts

GF261732 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 23 Oct 83

[Text] Tens of U.S. and French troops were killed or wounded in two consecutive huge blasts that shook the Lebanese capital earlier today. The blasts destroyed two buildings, the first of which is occupied by the U.S. Marines while the other is occupied by the soldiers of the French contingent who are part of the multinational force in Lebanon. This is regarded as the biggest assault on these forces since they arrived in Beirut over a year ago.

Beirut government radio noted that between 20 and 25 U.S. Marines were killed, while the bodies of 14 French soldiers were removed from the debris.

On the other hand, Robert Jordan, spokesman for the U.S. Marines, stressed that 25 U.S. Marines were killed and many other Marines injured in the incident which was aimed at the headquarters of the U.S. Marines in the area of the Beirut international airport.

The AFP correspondent reported that the blast which took place in the building occupied by the French contingent in the southern district of the capital led to the collapse of the building and that there was no hope of finding anyone alive since the eight-story building collapsed one floor on top of the other, though two of the injured were rescued. The agency could not get any confirmation at the site of the blast about the recovery of eight bodies which the government radio had reported earlier.

The residents of the Lebanese capital were startled out of their beds by the first blast which was followed by the second one a minute later. They thought that artillery shelling was being directed against some of the residential areas. But then the news began to be disseminated about the two blasts.

It is still unclear how the two blasts took place. Security sources have not reached a conclusion with regard to the explosions. Tight security measures are being taken around the positions of the Multinational Force in Lebanon.

Weinberger Suspects Iranians

JN261847 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 23 Oct 83

[Text] U.S. Secretary of Defense Caspar Weinberger has affirmed that there are many indications that the agents of the Iranian regime carried out the two explosion operations at the headquarters of the U.S. and French units operating within the Multinational Force in Lebanon. This came in a statement which Weinberger made after his meeting with U.S. President Ronald Reagan this afternoon.

REUTER has also cited a senior U.S. official, who did not disclose his name, as saying that some officials in the U.S. Administration believe that the Iranians were behind the terrorism in Lebanon.

Reagan Statement Cited

JN261929 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 2100 GMT 24 Oct 83

[Text] The U.S. Defense Department has announced that the death toll among U.S. Marines in the Beirut explosion has gone up to 183. The announcement came after the recovery of more corpses from under the debris of U.S. Marine headquarters at Beirut airport which was destroyed by an explosion yesterday. The French Defense Ministry announced today that 23 French soldiers were killed and 15 others injured in yesterday's explosion in Beirut. The ministry said that 35 French soldiers are still missing. These are the latest figures at 1500 today.

President Reagan today announced that the United States is discussing with its allies the subject of increasing the capabilities of the Multinational Force in Lebanon. Addressing officials on U.S. television and radio networks in a live broadcast, President Reagan said that the United States will not be intimidated by acts of terrorism.

Ambassador in Rome Shot; Groups Claim Credit

NC261921 Paris AFP in English 1911 GMT 26 Oct 83

[Text] Rome, Oct 26 (AFP) — Two separate groups, the Palestinian Abu Nidal group, and the hitherto unknown Syrian Fighting Front, claimed responsibility for an attack today on the Jordanian Ambassador in Rome, Taysir 'Ala' ad-Din Tuqan, in which he received seven bullet wounds. An anonymous call to AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE in Amman, Jordan, said the attack was a reprisal against "the detention of members of the Abu Nidal group in Jordan".

(Abu Nidal is a dissident facation of Yasir 'Arafat's Fatah group, named after Abu Nidal, condemned to death by Fatah in 1974).

The Syrian Fighting Front, in a call to the Italian agency ANSA, gave no details, but said a statement would be issued later.

One or more gunmen fired about 30 machine gun bullets into Mr 'Ala' ad-Din Tuqan's Chevrolet while he was on his way home, smashing the car windows and injuring the Egyptian chauffeur as well as Mr 'Ala' ad-Din Tuqan, police said. Eyewitnesses said they saw two men during the attack, one firing with a "small sub-machine-gun" while the other covered him from a doorway.

Police said it was not clear whether a third man who arrived on the scene about 15 minutes before the attack had been involved.

A man seen running away down a sidestreet was described as tall, with a sallow complexion and a black moustache, and wearing a smart beige suit. A Polish-made machine gun found nearby after the attack was probably the weapon used, police said.

Police arrested two armed Jordanians shortly After the attack, but they turned out to be Mr 'Ala' ad-Din Tuqan's bodyguards, who had been following in a second car.

Mr 'Ala' ad-Din Tuqan was wounded in the shoulder and legs, but no vital organs had been hit, a spokesman for the Rome clinic where he was being treated said.

Yesterday, a gunman seriously wounded Jordan's ambassador to India, Muhammad 'Ali Khurma, as he walked from his office to his home.

Mr 'Ala' ad-Din Tuqan, 57, is married with two children and had been in Rome since April 4 last year.

Italian President Sandro Pertini described today's attack as an "execrable act of violence".

Ambassador's Condition Improved

JN261615 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 26 Oct 83

[Text] A responsible source in the Foreign Ministry has said that the condition of Taysir 'Ala' ad-Din Tuqan, Jordanian ambassador in Rome, who was exposed to an attempt on his life today, is reassuring and does not call for concern. The source explained that Tuqan was hit by bullets in his shoulder, his hand, and his leg when gunmen opened fire on him while he was riding in his car near the Jordanian Embassy in Rome.

Italian, Indian Leaders Denounce Assassinations

JN262053 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 26 Oct 83

[Excerpt] His Majesty King Husayn received a telephone call from Italian President Alessandro Pertini this evening in which the Italian president denounced the criminal attack on Taysir Tuqan, Jrodanian ambassador in Rome. He affirmed the friendly ties between the Jordanian and Italian states and peoples and congratulated the king on the Jordanian ambassador's safety.

His Highness Crown Prince Hasan also received a telephone call from Indian Prime Minister Mrs Indira Gandhi in which she denounced the treacherous attack on Muhammad 'Ali Khurma, Jrodanian ambassador in New Delhi, and stressed concern about the close ties between the friendly Indian and Jordanian peoples.

Foreign Ministry Says Khurma's Health Improving

JN261445 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 26 Oct 83

[Text] A responsible Foreign Ministry source has stated that the health of Jordan's ambassador in New Delhi, Muhammad 'Ali Khurma, who was the target of an assassination attempt yesterday, is good, does not call for concern, and is continuously improving. The source added that the government has sent a medical team from the Al-Husayn Medical Center to supervise Khurma's medical treatment.

Egypt's Foreign Minister To Arrive 27 October

JN270713 Amman Ar-Ra'y in Arabic 27 Oct 83 p 1

[Text] Amman — *Ar-Ra'y* has learned that Kamal Hasan 'Ali, Egyptian deputy prime minister and foreign minister, will arrive in Amman today on a visit described as very important. During the visit, Kamal Hasan 'Ali will hold urgent talks with senior Jordanian officials.

It is noteworthy that this will be 'Ali's first visit to Jordan.

Canadian Deputy Prime Minister Winds Up Visit

Meeting With Crown Prince

JN261306 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 26 Oct 83

[Text] Amman — His Highness Crown Prince Hasan this morning received Allan MacEachen, Canadian deputy prime minister and secretary of state for external affairs. Prince Hasan briefed the Canadian official on the progress of the social and economic developments in Jordan and the effect of international economic developments on the Jordanian economy.

Prince Hasan also analyzed the situation in the occupied Arab territories and the effect of the Israeli settlement policy on the region. He also stressed the need for promoting the economic, cultural, and scientific cooperation between Jordan and Canada and called for the establishment of joint economic projects between the two countries.

MacEachen stressed his interest in the circumstances of the Arab citizens in the occupied territories and the need for promoting relations between Canada and Jordan.

Attending the meeting on the Jordanian side were the minister of labor, the foreign minister, and the governor of the central bank. On the Canadian side, the meeting was attended by the accompanying delegation and the Canadian ambassador in Amman.

Holds Press Conference

JN261401 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 26 Oct 83

[Text] Allan MacEachen, Canadian deputy prime minister and secretary of state for foreign affairs, held a press conference at the Intercontinental Hotel in Amman today in which he spoke about the results of his visit to Jordan and answered reporters' questions on a number of local and international issues.

MacEachen said that he had met with His Majesty King Husayn and his Highness Crown Prince Hasan as well as senior officials with whom he discussed the bilateral relations and means to develop them, particularly in economic fields. He added that he had discussed the Arab-Israeli conflict with Jordanian officials as well as the situation in the occupied Arab territories, the Lebanese situation, and the prospects for achieving peace in this vital area of the world.

Answering a question about the Israeli authorities' violation of the rights of the Palestinians in the occupied territories and their inhuman practices against them, MacEachen said that efforts must be exerted to halt these practices, affirming that the Israeli policy on settlements in the occupied Arab territories constitutes a main obstacle on the path to achieving a just and comprehensive peace in the region. He reiterated that the Canadian Government had asked Israel on several occasions to cease the building of settlements in the occupied Arab territories and to reconsider the status ofthe present settlements, stressing that his country considers these settlements illegal.

MacEachen asserted his country's support for the Palestinians' legitimate demands, particularly the right to determine their future on their national soil, pointing out that this right is essential concerning the Palestinians' political status in the region.

MacEachen Departs for Israel

JN261738 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 26 Oct 83

[Text] Allan MacEachen, Canadian deputy prime minister and secretary of state for foreign affairs, left Amman at noon today following a 3-day official visit to Jordan during which he met with His Majesty King Husayn, His Highness Crown Prince Hasan, and senior Jordanian officials. He was seen off at Amman Airport by Marwan al-Qasim, the foreign minister; Shaykh Ahmad ibn Khalifah Al Thani, doyen of the diplomatic corps and Qatari ambassador in Amman; the acting secretary general of the Foreign Ministry; the Canadian ambassador in Amman; and senior Foreign Ministry officials.

MacEachen has already arrived in Tel Aviv on a visit to Israel.

Briefs

Ambassador in YAR—San'a': Zuhayr Sakkijha, newly appointed Jordanian ambassador to the YAR, today presented his credentials to President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih. [Excerpt] [Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 26 Oct 83 JN]

President Contacts Syria's Al-Asad, King Fahd
NC261823 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 26 Oct 83

[Text] President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil this evening telephoned Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad and asked him to send an envoy to attend the National Dialogue Conference in Geneva scheduled to convene this coming Monday. On this occasion, he discussed certain issues pertaining to Syrian-Lebanese relations. During the lengthy telephone call between the two presidents, they reviewed bilateral relations, the need to cooperate in the interests of both countries, and to strengthen relations without the confrontation that serves neither Syria nor Lebanon. They discussed the imperative need to find means of cooperation to serve both countries. The conversation between the two presidents was friendly and open.

President al-Jumayyil also contacted His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz of Saudi Arabia, and asked him to send an envoy to Geneva to participate in the National Dialogue Conference. The conversation was an occasion for President al-Jumayyil to thank King Fahd and Saudi Arabia for the efforts that resulted in a cease-fire agreement and in opening the door to national dialogue to achieve reconciliation among the leaderships, develop the establishments, and build the future Lebanon. The conversation was friendly and during it his majesty the king expressed full readiness to continue supporting Lebanon and the march of peace. President al-Jumayyil repeated his thanks to Saudi Arabia, its monarch, His Highness Prince Bandar ibn Sultan, and Rafiq al-Hariri for their endeavors that paved the way for the dialogue committee meeting in Geneva early next week.

Salam Meets Al-Jumayyil, Contacts Franjiyah
NC262018 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 26 Oct 83

[Text] President Amin al-Jumayyil met with [former] Prime Minister Sa'ib Salam in the Presidential Palace at 1930 today. They reviewed the general situation in Lebanon, particularly issues pertinent to the National Dialogue Conference scheduled to convene in Geneva early next week. At 1800, Salam telephoned [former] President Sulayman Franjiyah and discussed issues related to the conference.

Al-Jumayyil Confers With Saudi Envoy Al-Hariri
NC270614 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0400 GMT 27 Oct 83

[Text] President Amin al-Jumayyil received last night the Saudi mediator, Rafiq al-Hariri, who arrived in Beirut from Jidda yesterday. Foreign Minister Dr Elie Salim attended the meeting. The president and the Saudi mediator reviewed the progress so far made by the ongoing contacts on the dialogue conference scheduled to be held next Monday. Al-Hariri left Beirut late last night.

Delegations to Geneva Conference Named
NC270756 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0530 GMT 27 Oct 83

[Text] According to available information, the president will be accompanied to Geneva for the National Dialogue Conference by a working team including several advisers.

Former President Camille Sham'un will be accompanied by Deputy Michel Sasin, engineer Marun Hilu, and some aides. It was reported that Deputy Nasri al-Ma'luf will also join the delegation. However, this has not been confirmed. Sham'un and his delegation are expected to leave Beirut today for Paris and then for Geneva.

The delegation to accompany former President Sulayman Franjiyah has not been formed yet although some circles said the delegation will include Deputy Dr 'Abdallah Ar-Rasi and Ramiz Khazin.

Former Speaker 'Adil 'Usayran will be accompanied by his son 'Ali and his representative to the dialogue Preparatory Committee Dr 'Adnan Hubballah and some aides.

Former Prime Minister Sa'ib Salam, who visited the Presidential Palace last night to meet the president and review the general situation, has not yet officially nominated the delegation that will accompany him, although it was learned that the delegation will include Deputy Jamil Kibbi and Muhammad al-Mashnuq. Last night Salam contacted Sulayman Franjiyah and discussed the dialogue conference affairs.

Former Prime Minister Rashid Karami will be accompanied by Husayn al-Quwwatli, director general of Al-Ifta' and perhaps 'Umar Musayki.

Shaykh Pierre al-Jumayyil will be accompanied by a delegation including Deputy George Sa'adah, lawyer Alfred Madi, and Joseph Abu Khalil.

Lawyer Nabih Birri, leader of the Amal Movement, left Beirut last night for Paris accompanied by a delegation including lawyer Haytham Jum'ah and Muhammad Baydun. In Paris, Birri will meet with Raymond Iddih before leaving for Geneva.

Walid Junblatt will be accompanied by former ministers Marwan Hamadah and Khalid Junblatt and several aides.

It was learned that Franjiyah, Karami, and Walid Junblatt will meet in Damascus Saturday and from there they will leave for Geneva with the Syrian delegation to the conference.

Saudi Arabia Appoints Envoy to Dialogue Meeting
NC270835 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0815 GMT 27 Oct 83

[Text] Lebanon has officially been informed that Saudi Arabia will delegate its new ambassador in Beirut Mahmud al-Kuhaymi to represent it as an observer at the dialogue conference in Geneva.

Cabinet Briefed on Mitterrand, Bush Visits
NC261244 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1208 GMT 26 Oct 83

[Correspondent Joe Sa'adah dispatch from Presidential Palace — live]

[Text] The Cabinet session ended about 20 minutes ago.

An official statement released by the Cabinet says: At the outset of the Cabinet session held at the Presidential Palace in B'abda on 26 October 1983, His Excellency President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil briefed the Cabinet on the unexpected brief visits by French President Francois Mitterrand and U.S. Vice President George Bush to Lebanon to inspect their forces with the Multinational Force in the wake of the two criminal incidents against the U.S. and French soldiers last Sunday morning.

The statement adds: His excellency outlined that the atmosphere at the two meetings confirmed the solidarity of the two friendly countries — the United States and France — with Lebanon by helping him to stand fast and to achieve the goals for which these forces assumed their mission in Lebanon.

The foreign minister then reviewed the steps and measures adopted in Lebanon and Switzerland to provide security for His Excellency President al-Jumayyil's visit [to Geneva] and to initiate the national dialogue successfully.

The Cabinet then discussed the general security situation in various Lebanese areas, particularly in the steadfast south. It noted the contacts made to put an end to the oppressive Israeli practices, be they the arrest of citizens or the occupation of official buildings. The Cabinet also discussed the displaced persons question and heard the results of the work of the ministerial committee for displaced persons in respect of the assistance that must be given to them. Finally, the Cabinet discussed the items on its agenda and adopted the appropriate decisions.

Security Arrangements Committee Meets 26 October
NC261518 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 26 Oct 83

[Text] The Security Arrangements Commitee on the consolidation of the cease-fire has held its 18th meeting with all its members attending. It tackled the deteriorating situation as a result of the recurrent violation of the cease-fire. The members of the committee held contacts to consolidate the cease-fire.

Radio Updates Toll of French, Marine Dead
NC270612 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0400 GMT 27 Oct 83

[Text] The rescue operations were completed last night at the French contingent headquarters. The number of bodies removed has reached 72, in addition to the Al-Hamawi family. The rubble lifting operations will continue today. The rescue operations are still continuing at the U.S. Marine headquarters. The latest victim figure has risen to 219 martyrs.

Defense Minister Khuri on Aims of Paris Visit
NC261310 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 26 Oct 83

[Text] 'Isam Khuri, minister of national defense, national education and fine arts, left Beirut to attend the UNESCO meetings which will be held in Paris.

Before leaving the airport he made the following statement to our correspondent:

[Begin Khuri recording] The visit is originally to lead the Lebanese delegation to the General Assembly of UNESCO, and to deliver Lebanon's speech at this session. Following the criminal attack Sunday on the French and U.S. forces of the Multinational Force, I naturally postponed the visit to be at the scene here alongside those engaged in the rescue operations.

As you know, we have had a meeting with French Defense Minister Hernu. While embarking on this visit for the original purpose; that is, to attend the UNESCO meeting,in view of developments, this visit will have a second purpose — to convey to the French officials, Minister Hernu, and to the French people our profound appreciation for the grave sacrifices France, the French people, and the Multinational Force are making, and to convey the most profound condolences on this tragedy in which hundreds of French and U.S. soldiers with the Multinational Force were killed.

[Unidentified correspondent] Mr Minister, will the talks in Paris deal with the possibility of helping the Lebanese Army by supplying it with French equipment?

[Khuri] The meetings I will have with Minister Hernu and other French officials will deal with several questions including the continued French support to Lebanon, in the political and military fields. [end recording]

Junblatt Warns of Phalangist Cease-Fire Violation
JN261525 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1335 GMT 26 Oct 83

[Text] Damascus, 26 Oct (SANA) — Walid Junblatt, leader of the Progressive Socialist Party [PSP], has warned against the Army and the Phalangist forces' continued violation of the cease-fire, and the shelling of civilian areas in the mountain area and Beirut's southern suburb.

In a statement distributed here today, Junblatt said that the escalating incidents which the mountain area and the southern suburbs have been recently witnessing, and which were provoked by the regime's forces and the Phalangists, reveal the real intentions of both as well as their determination to abort the dialogue's attempts at reconciliation. He added that he might reconsider his participation in the Geneva conference if the blatant cease- fire violation incidents continue. He said these incidents take place at a time when the National Salvation Front's forces are abiding by the 25 September 1983 agreement and by the cease-fire.

Former Ministers Marwan Hamadah and Khalid Junblatt con-

veyed the PSP leader's stand to Syria and Saudi Arabia through their contacts with 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, Syrian deputy prime minister and foreign minister, and Prince Bandar ibn Sultan, the Saudi mediator.

Hamadah conveyed Walid Junblatt's denunciation and warning to the embassies of the United States and France in Damascus. Furthermore, Hamadah and Khalid Junblatt met with the USSR ambassador in Damascus and reviewed with him the PSP's position toward the current situation.

Franjiyah, Karami Comment on Departure for Damascus
NC270904 Ihdin Radio of Free and Unified Lebanon in Arabic 0700 GMT 27 Oct 83

[Text] [Former] President Sulayman Franjiyah and [former] Prime Minister Rashid Karami left the north for Damascus this morning in preparation for the National Dialogue Conference. Prior to his departure from Zgharta, President Franjiyah answered journalists' questions:

Question: Your Excellency, do you have anything to tell the Lebanese before leaving the homeland?

Franjiyah: I implore God Almighty to help everyone place the Lebanese interest above any non-Lebanese interest.

Question: All the Lebanese pin great hopes on Your Excellency's leading role in solving all the incurable problems in Lebanon.

Franjiyah: I believe I have a duty to perform. The history of my political career testifies that I never failed to make sacrifices for the sake of my country's interest. Likewise, I will never deviate from this line.

Question: Therefore, you leave the homeland with open heart for the dialogue?

Franjiyah: The outcome of every dialogue will surely be in favor of the homeland.

Question: Are you optimistic that a satisfactory solution will be achieved as a result of the contacts that are being held with you at the highest level?

Franjiyah: We rely on God.

Question: Will the recent explosions affect the dialogue and the cease-fire agreement?

Franjiyah: I believe you heard Walid Junblatt's statement. However, we will endeavor to keep the dialogue going and we hope that there will be an end to all explosions.

Question: Your Excellency, what do you think of the telephone call between Presidents al-Jumayyil and Al-Asad, and do you expect good results?

Franjiyah: This is something customary between the Syrian and Lebanese presidents. They have a hot line. After 13 months the Lebanese president remembered that he has a neighbor who is as zealous about Lebanon's interests as much as he is zealous about Syria's interests. I hope that God Almighty will grant us his blessings.

Before leaving Zgharta with Sulayman Franjiyah, Rashid Karami said: Actually, we are not leaving cherished Lebanon because we carry it in our hearts and consciences. We are leaving the homeland for the sake of the citizens' aspirations — salvation, liberation, and national unity — based on loyalty and true brotherhood because all the plots and dangers to which we are exposed dictate that all Lebanese concert their efforts to get rid of this painful situation. I must say that everyone should be loyal and show allegiance to the homeland so that the conference will be up to the expectations of all the Lebanese.

Nabih Birri Answers Phalangist Radio Charges
NC270953 Beirut As-Safir in Arabic 26 Oct 83 p 3

[Text] Answering the Phalangist radio report quoting a U.S. official, that the Amal Movement blew up the headquarters of the Marines and the French contingent, Amal Movement leader Nabih Birri said: The Phalangist radio and those behind it are attempting to exploit the explosions for political objectives which are opposed to the national dialogue and every just demand for a domestic settlement. At the same time they are instigating the Multinational Forces to occupy the southern suburb on the pretext that the suburb was the center for the explosions [as heard].

He added: We remind the instigators and the Multinational Forces that the Amal Movement is not responsible for the protection of positions that are not in areas under its control and that these forces are supposed to protect the people, not the opposite. Any action against the southern suburbs is a threat to all Lebanon, particularly as the suburb and its people are advocates of dialogue and nothing else. The Multinational Forces must review their calculations on who is using such explosions to cover up events in the south and to attempt to alter equations.

Within this framework, Birri telephoned his representative to the Security Arrangements Committee Dr Ayyub Humayyid requesting him to adopt a stand toward the Phalangist radio since the Phalangists are represented in the Security Arrangements Committee. The Phalangist radio attempted to falsely suggest to public opinion that the Amal Movement was responsible for the explosions at the Marines and French contingents headquarters. It should be noted that a legislative decree has been issued on the supervision of private radio stations. Birri met with Former Minister Malik Salam who briefed him on the plenary Islamic meeting that was held in former Prime Minister al-Huss' residence.

Meanwhile, Joseph al-Hashim, the director general of the Voice of Lebanon, responded to Birri outlining that the radio reported the accusation by citing REUTER.

Amal's Birri Interviewed on Dialogue Conference
NC241021 Beirut Monday Morning in English 17-23 Oct 83 pp 3-14

[Interview by Nabih Birri, Shi'ite Amal Movement Leader given to Lydia Georgi, Beirut *Monday Morning* correspondent "last Tuesday" place not specified — conducted in Arabic]

[Excerpts] Nabih Birri, leader of the Shi'ite Amal Movement, asked *Monday Morning* last week to address a message of reassurance to the Lebanese Christian community, especially "our Maronite brothers."

"I would like, through *Monday Morning*...to set our brothers the Maronites' minds at ease," he said in a private interview last Tuesday. "None of the opposition groups — not the National Salvation Front nor the Amal Movement — has any intention of inviting them to a dispossession conference. No, we are inviting them to a dialogue so that we can achieve justice in Lebanon."

The following is a translation of the full interview:

Question: Are you optimistic about the early initation of the national dialogue? Why hasn't it started yet?

Answer: This national conference, this national dialogue was the hope of all the Lebanese and one of the major goals that I was working for. When the dialogue (idea) was announced, I was very optimistic. But the statements that have been made since then, the various positions that have been taken and the various complications that have occurred have made me...I won't say pessimistic, but I will say unoptimistic.

Question: Unoptimistic about the dialogue starting or about it succeeding?

Answer: No, unoptimistic about the dialogue starting.

Question: Does that mean there is a chance that the dialogue will not even start?

Answer: Yes, my fear is that the national conference may not be held.

Question: What makes you say that?

Answer: There is no secret about what has happened and the complications that have arisen. For exactly 12 days now, we've been discussing a single subject, the subject of the venue. Is this acceptable at a time when Lebanon is being buffeted by developments which are tearing at it and mauling every street in it?

The mistakes that were being made were brought up and we succeeded, through the Security Committee, in putting a stop to them. But the situation on the ground remains precarious, the preparations are continuing on every side, and there are fears that the whole thing will blow up again. The whole of Lebanon is at the crossroads. I tell you frankly that Lebanon is more at risk now than ever before. And yet, we're still arguing about the venue. How can that be?

Question: Who's to blame?

Answer: Well, as to who's to blame, I would have to go into what has happened since the first dialogue announcement was made and how the complications started. For instance, two days after the dialogue was proposed, I read a statement by (former) President Camille Sham'un to the effect that the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia was not willing to host the dialogue. I really believed that. A little later, (Saudi envoy) Rafiq al-Hariri came and I asked him about this matter, and he denied it categorically, saying that the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia was more than ready (to host the conference), on condition, of course, that all parties agree to go to Saudi Arabia. So the statement (by Sham'un) turned out to be untrue — a balloon.

Some time later, there was another statement suggesting that the Dialogue Committee be replaced by a government grouping all influential (Lebanese) parties, part of which would take care of the dialogue. Our answer was that by doing this, we would be putting the cart before the horse and asking the horse to go forward. The proper way to do it is to have the dialogue, reach an agreement and then a government of influential forces would take over to implement the agreement. How could it be done otherwise? Assume that we formed a government of influential forces and this government came to implement. What would it implement? The inter-Lebanese differences would still be there. We would be implementing nothing, we would find ourselves in a big mess, and we would arouse greater fears, with people saying, "Even this government can't do anything."

Later, they started talking about the venue being Jidda or not Jidda. And still later statements started coming out to the effect that accord is impossible, that the whole thing wasn't working out, and other statements of that sort. You may have read them yourself.

Then Parliament made a move: a demand was made for an extraordinary session and a large number of Parliament members arrived at the conclusions that liberation should precede accord. How can we liberate before accord? How can we liberate if I'm pulling to the east and others are pulling to the west, if I'm pulling to the north and others are pulling to the south? That was another obstacle.

Then we came to the venue — should it be in Jidda, in Beirut, in Algiers...? We talk about a different location every day. Even in the same general location, like Lebanon, the question is exactly where? Now they're asking, where in Lebanon? For the past 48 hours, the focus of the talks has been on Lebanon as the venue. Okay, but where? The Presidential Palace? The airport? The residence of the Mufti? On a ship? And so on.

That is what makes me unoptimistic. I fear that these obstacles will overshadow the fundamental issues.

From my point of view, I would rather have the dialogue — at least the first and second meeting, or the initial meetings — outside Lebanese territory. Why? Let's be frank: There are matters that have accumulated over the past eight years. What is being proposed as far as the dialogue is concerned is a reconciliation and then a discussion in depth. The reconciliation must be

provided with a certain atmosphere which would be conducive to objective dialogue. That is why I have always preferred, and still prefer, to have the dialogue start outside Lebanon, at least in its first and second sessions. When I heard that Jidda had been ruled out, I will tell you frankly that I made some contacts through our delegate in Algeria and secured the Algerian Government's and the Algerian president's agreement to host the dialogue in Algeria — on condition, of course, that all parties accept, because Algeria is not prepared to invite one party to the exclusion of another.

So whatever the venues is — be it Jidda or Algiers or any other place — I would prefer it to be outside Lebanon, at least for the first and second sessions.

But at the same time, I do not absolutely oppose the idea of meeting in Lebanon if the other parties agree to do so, and that is the position that we communicated to those who contacted us on this subject. In other words, the Amal Movement would prefer to have the dialogue for reconciliation outside Lebanon at least in its initial sessions, but it does not rule out Lebanon as a venue if the other parties reach agreement on that.

Question: You say you are not optimistic about the Dialogue Committee meeting. Do you believe that the meeting of the Preparatory Committee, assuming it is held, can fail to pave the way for the meeting of the Dialogue Committee?

Answer: Before the Preparatory Committee can meet, there must be an agreement on the time and venue of the meeting of the Dialogue Committee. As you know, when there is an agreement to hold a summit conference, a preparatory committee usually meets in advance to make the necessary preparations — but only after agreement has been reached that the summit conference will be held on a certain date in a certain place.

In principle, all parties have agreed that the Preparatory Committee should meet where the Security Committee is meeting, but you can't ask the Preparatory Committee to meet until an agreement is reached at least determining the precise date and venue of the meeting of the basic Dialogue Committee. In other words, the meeting of the Preparatory Committee is linked to an agreement on the time and place of the meeting of the Dialogue Committee, and the announcement to be issued would cover both: It would be said, for instance, that the Preparatory Committee, made up of so-and-so and so-and-so, would meet next Friday, and that the Dialogue Committee would meet on the following Friday in such-and-such a place. This announcement would be made by the presidency or the state.

Question: You say you are not optimistic about the possibility of the dialogue starting. What do you think the consequences would be if the dialogue did not start, keeping in mind that what we have on the ground now is a cease-fire and not peace?

Answer: That's the major problem. The Lebanese, standing at this crossroads, have no alternative but to take the road to inter-Lebanese dialogue. All means must be tried to make the Dialogue Conference a success. There's no other way. The other way, which we have been trying since 1975, is strife, and that can never lead anywhere.

That is why we say we are "unoptimistic" — we would never allow ourselves to say we are pessimistic. We say that the way of dialogue is very difficult and complicated, but it is not impossible, and it is up to the Lebanese, and specifically the Lebanese authorities, to make it possible through their contacts, even if they have to make concessions in various matters of protocol. Because it is unacceptable for the state to behave like a person. A state's behavior should be one of sponsorship, in an institutional sense. The state must seek by all means to convene this conference.

So I don't say I'm pessimistic; I say I'm not optimistic, especially since, as you said, what we have is a cease-fire which is holding on its own, with no observers and no supervision and no accountability whatsoever; we have no way of knowing who is breaking the cease-fire and no way of determining what measures should be taken against whoever breaks it. So the entire situation may explode any minute, and this time, I don't know where the fighting would lead, although I am certain it would throw us into the darkness of the unknown.

The dialogue is a must. We say we're not optimistic, we say it will be difficult, but we have no alternative but to arrive at dialogue.

Question: What are the chances of the cease-fire breaking down in the meantime?

Answer: Well, so far we have a quasi-guarantee in the Security Committee, which is really doing some good work. It has achieved and is still achieving certain steps on the ground. Note what it has done even on the social level, on the level of water and electricity, on the level of the airport, on the level of Army and Internal Security Forces deployment on the south Lebanon road, on the level of hostage exchanges, and so on. I believe the Security Committee will settle many of the problems that remain pending.

And at any rate, there's no other way. One must ask oneself: What other way is there if this doesn't work? I know of no other way.

Question: Do you believe that failure to start the dialogue may lead to a general civil war?

Answer: As I told you, I don't know what the consequences would be if the dialogue did not start. But there is no doubt that there are things on the ground right now that are leading to more and more estrangement among the Lebanese and pushing the dialogue farther and farther into the future. This is having effects that do not serve the interests of Lebanese unity. And if there is more fighting and more people are displaced, even greater complications may arise and the time may come when you can no longer talk about a united Lebanon. There are fears — yes, I have fears.

Question: Fears of partition?

Answer: Of fragmentation. Lebanon now is in fact partitioned, but this partition comes in the context of an overwhelming popular desire for reunification. What is required now is the reunification of Lebanon. How can it be reunified?

I'll give you a simple example: If two brothers living in the same house have differences, how do you bring harmony and solidarity back to the household? By watching them go through another boxing match? By having one of them shoot the other? How? By having the parents bring the two brothers together, talk to them both and so on, until they kiss and come to an understanding on the basic issues, after which the household can go back to normal life and unity. But if you have another boxing match, your parents may no longer be able to bring about a reconciliation and you may have to bring in your uncles and your cousins; you may have to bring in the entire family, maybe the entire tribe; and it may get so bad that it becomes a problem between the clan and the tribe, making reconciliation impossible. This example applies to the Lebanese situation exactly.

Question: If the dialogue does start, what hopes do you have that it will succeed in solving the present problems and producing a formula that can sink Lebanon's roots as a strong state?

Answer: That depends on the intentions of the parties and the participants in the dialogue. The Lebanese question as it stands now can be summarized in two issues:

The first issue is the liberation of south Lebanon, which would leave the door open for the withdrawal of the rest of the non-Lebanese forces from Lebanon. It is in that framework that a united Lebanese entity can be reached.

The second issue is the internal equations. On this matter, no one can say there is a unified formula. There are many formulas. It is unacceptable for me to impose a specific formula, and it is unacceptable for the Lebanese Front to impose the existing formula. The formula must be the product of a dialogue between those parties. By talking about myself and the Lebanese Front, I am only giving an example, of course, and what applies there applies to all parties: I will have a certain conception, others will have other conceptions; as a result of the dialogue, we may decide to adopt one of those conceptions, or we may agree on a new conception.

Question: How hopeful are you that such an agreement can be reached? And, keeping in mind what you said about no party having the right to impose any formula, what conception do you intend to propose at the dialogue?

Answer: Regarding the first part of the question, if all intentions are based on the premises I have just explained, I imagine we can arrive at a solution.

The answer to the second part of the question is no secret. The Amal Movement has prepared a paper, and it has tried to poll as many people about it as possible. The paper was sent to the Al-Biqa', for instance, and meetings were held about it there between the clan chiefs, the mayors, the mukhtars and the intelligentsia, and a number of suggestions for amendments and additions were made after which it was supported. Here, as you read in the press every day, we have explained the paper to the various sectors — to the press, the lawyers, the doctors, the engineers, the jurists... Today, there is a meeting for the unions on this matter. Yesterday, there was a meeting for the intelligentsia. We are putting this working paper to the people.

And this is not the Amal Movement's paper, or a Shi'ite paper as many like to call it; it is a national paper, a general Lebanese paper defining the future Lebanese framework. Most of those who have studied it have supported it — usually after four or five hours of discussion and suggestions.

We intend to present this paper. And despite the popular referendum that it has gone through, we do not intend to try to impose it. It will be a subject of discussion, and one part of it or another may be adopted.

Question: Does this paper demand a redistribution of posts or the abolition of political sectarianism?

Answer: On this matter, the paper demands the abolition of political sectarianism.

Question: So the Amal Movement wants political sectarianism abolished. But if this proves impossible, will the movement demand something else, like a redistribution of posts?

Answer: If the dialogue does not lead to the abolition of political sectarianism, one must have alternatives, of course. The Amal Movement's alternative proposal is that all sects be equal — there must be justice and equality.

In other words, no sect should have the right to monopoly at the expense of another sect. This means that we must have a criterion. The criterion can be one of two things:

The first is the criterion of merit. When you read the names of the students who passed the government exams, do you ever count how many of them are Shi'ite or Christians or Sunnites or Maronites? No. Even if your brother fails in the exam, you give him a tongue-lashing — you don't blame the state or say that your brother failed for confessional reasons. If this criterion is adopted, and people can get (government) posts on the basis of merit, the Lebanese citizen will develop ties of patriotism with his country, not ties of confessionalism, and we will have truly created a new Lebanon in which there is no sign of those old sensitivities.

But if some insist, God forbid, on keeping this a country of distinct communities, a country of separate sects, and on the distribution of posts among those sects, then we must adopt that criterion; but in that event, it must be a fair criterion. In other words, the same criterion must apply to all sects without exception. To put it more frankly, on what grounds should the Shi'ite sect be denied the same rights that the Maronite sect has. What would the justification for that be?

Question: What rights?

Answer: Rights relating to government posts, which is what you are asking about. How am I to convince the Lebanese Shi'ite, for instance, that he should not have the rights that the Maronite sect has? Numerically, the Maronite sect is not larger than the Shi'ite sect, and the Shi'ite areas suffer from more deprivation than the Maronite areas, as a simple comparison between social and developmental conditions in the Al-Biqa' and Kasrawan shows. So why should this Lebanese citizen be denied the rights

that another Lebanese citizen has on the community level? If we go by the size of the community, the Shi'ite may deserve more (than the Maronite). But we are not demanding more; we are saying there should be equality, so that other communities will not feel deprived either.

Question: Are you talking about a redistribution of all posts? The Presidency? The Army command? Parliament? All government posts?

Answer: We are talking about government employment.

Question: Does that include the Presidency?

Answer: So far, we are talking about government jobs. As far as the Presidency of the Republic is concerned, the Amal Movement is not thinking in terms of not having a Christian or a Maronite in the presidency. However, certain things should be added to the presidency so that the president of the Republic can really be a president for all the Lebanese. This is not against the interests of the Maronites, because in our view, the interests of the Maronites lie in the unity of Lebanon; the interests of the Maronites lie in the president of the Republic being for all the Lebanese, so that no one can feel that the president is for one sect to the exclusion of the others. He may come from the Maronite sect, but he must be for all the Lebanese, equally and justly. In other words, it may be proposed that the president remain Christian or Maronite, but why not have him elected directly by the people?

There are many possible proposals, but there are no intentions to turn this into a dispossession operation. No, I would like, through *Monday Morning*, to set people's minds at ease on this matter; specifically, to set our brothers the Maronites' minds at ease; none of the opposition groups — not the National Salvation Front nor the Amal Movement — has any intention of inviting them to a dispossession conference. No, we are inviting them to a dialogue so that we can achieve justice in Lebanon. Justice can be achieved either by giving citizens what they deserve on the basis of merit or by equality among the sects. There is no other solution for Lebanon. There can be no return to 1943. What happened in 1943 is outdated; it has proved its failure.

Question: Among the subjects to be raised in the dialogue are the Lebanese-Israeli agreement and the disbanding of the militias. What is your position on these two issues?

Answer: There is absolutely no justification for keeping the militias. All militias must be disbanded. When a ministerial dialogue committee was formed, I was among the first to demand the disbanding of all militias. Under the expected agreement on justice and equality, the Lebanese Army will be for all the Lebanese and it will be above all Lebanese hands, be they armed or unarmed. There will no longer be any need for militias. The militias are the biggest divisive factor in Lebanese society. The militia of the Amal Movement, the militia of the Lebanese Forces, the militias of the others — all these must be disbanded. We are talking about our state of the future. To have a state and to still have an army for every party — that is out of the question.

Question: some are saying that the militias should be disbanded only after all foreign armies have pulled out of Lebanon.

Answer: That is not their business — that is the business ofthe Lebanese Army, or it will be when we arrive at an agreement. Let those people answer me: Have they ever fought foreign armies in Lebanon? Since the new regime started, I have seen no hostilities with the foreign forces — all I have seen is us fighting each other. And at any rate, this matter is the concern of the Lebanese state in all its agencies, diplomatic and military — especially after accord is reached, because I am saying this on the assumption that accord will be reached.

As for the Lebanese-Israeli agreement, we stated the day after it was issued that it was stillborn and would lead nowhere. The Amal Movement is against negotiations (with Israel) to begin with, but to go beyond that, we say that anyone who reads the agreement carefully will discover that it is bound to create new problems in Lebanon. The agreement was stillborn and it can lead to more division in Lebanon. We said all this one day or two days after the agreement was issued, and of course there was a furore: What kind of position is this, we were asked. But what has happened on the ground since then?

The people who accepted the agreement justified it on the grounds that it would keep Israel from creating a problem in the mountains by pulling out of that area quickly and paving the way for sectarian massacres. It was for that reason, they said, that the State was forced to accept the agreement. What did Israel do? It did exactly what the advocates of the agreement feared it would do.

And if the agreement was meant to guarantee Israel's withdrawal from the south, what does the closure of the crossing points to the south mean? Why are they attempting to separate the south from the rest of Lebanon? Why are they trying to create a Shi'ite army to face the Lebanese Forces militia in ths south and start a war between southerner and southerner with Israeli arms and under Israeli sponsorship?

Why cling to the agreement? The Amal Movement believes there is no justification for it. We have Security Council Resolutions 508 and 509, along with other Security Council resolutions. And Lebanon did not go to war with Israel, so Israel has no right to refuse to withdraw until it has secured some gains. Israel must withdraw from Lebanon unconditionally. When it does, there will no longer be any justification for the presence of Arab forces in Lebanon, and those will also withdraw. That is the required solution, in my opinion.

Question: So you want the agreement abrogated?

Answer: The agreement does not exist in the first place. It has not been ratified. In our view, it was stillborn. The word "abrogate" is not accurate, because you can only abrogate an existing agreement, but this agreement is nonexistent. It has not been ratified; it was stillborn and it has caused more division in Lebanon. But if you want to ignore the legal implications, yes, what is required is the abrogation of this agreement.

Question: Are you in agreement with the Higher Shi'ite Council on the position the Shi'ite sect should adopt at the Dialogue

Conference, keeping in mind that the council has said it would prefer to limit the dialogue to the mountain war and its consequences?

Answer: The Shi'ite Council went back on that statement in a press conference in which it presented the working paper issued by Imam as-Sadr, which is the basis of the Amal Movement's paper. The press conference was held by Shaykh Muhammad Mahdi Shams ad-Din (vice president of the council), who presented the paper and stated clearly that what was required was general accord and that the issues involved cannot be separated. In other words, the previous statements were retracted, one way or another.

Question: So the Amal Movement and the Shi'ite Council are in total agreement?

Answer: There are no differences. We have not arrived at any formal agreement, but there are no differences. There were differences over the position you mentioned in the question, but there was a retraction by the Council, and I read it in the press.

Question: People say there are differences between you and the Shi'ite Council. Is that true?

Answer: There are no differences. We don't agree a hundred percent on everything, but that is only natural, because we are not the Shi'ite Council and the Shi'ite Council is not us. The Amal Movement is not for the Shi'ites alone but for all the Lebanese, so it is only natural that we do not agree on all steps. But it is equally natural that the positions of the Shi'ite Council on the south, on the activities of Israel, on the unity of Lebanon and on the situation in the Al-Biqa' and various other Lebanese areas be similar to ours — and that is indeed the case. Sometimes there are differences of view, but this poses no problem — on the contrary, it is a sign of health. We are not one unit. The Amal Movement is not the Shi'ite Council and the Shi'ite Council is not the Amal Movement.

Question: Although the cease-fire has more or less silenced the guns in the mountains, there is still sniping and there are still clashes between the Army and Amal in the southern suburbs. Why?

Answer: The question is not totally accurate. The "front line," so to speak, between the Amal Movement and the Army stretches from the vicinity of the School of Sciences to Dar al-Kitab al-Lubnani in Qasqas. Both we and the Army are abiding by the cease-fire all along this line, except on a small stretch of 400 meters between the Mar Mikhayil church and Dar al-Kitab al-Lubnani — between Ash-Shiyah and 'Ayn ar-Rummanah, in other words. There is a general commitment to cease-fire, but there are always violations — sniping and so on.

Why do these things happen? I wish some journalist would investigate and find out. Some of our brothers from the political bureau, who are not military people, went over there to observe the situation. They did this on Sunday and Monday (we can't talk about Tuesday, because it isn't over yet), and they found that the sniping invariably came from 'Ayn ar-Rummanah and that the Amal elements did not respond.

On the contrary, last Saturday, I called for the reopening of the southern suburb — the reopening of streets and schools — and I called for the reopening of the three ministries near the Mar Kikhayil church. Unfortunately, I have since learned that instead of reopening the Public Works Ministry, for instance, they waited for me to make that call and then started to transfer the ministry to Hazmiyah or somewhere else.

Yes, I haven't talked about this to the press yet — this is the first time I've talked about it — but they are transferring the Public Works Ministry and some documents. Why? There is absolutely no justification for it. I stated that I would be personally responsible for every government employee, be he junior or senior, and I would be responsible for anything that might facilitate the reopening of the ministries. There is no kidnapping — there has been none for the past 12 or 13 days, since the Security Committee reached agreement on this matter. As for the sniping, there is absolutely no sniping from our side, so all that is needed is to talk to the other side to stop the sniping so that people can come to the ministries. People are coming to the Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs, which is no more than 100 meters away, but the Public Works Ministry, instead of responding to my call, is being transferred.

My greatest fear is that something we don't know about is being prepared. I assure you that the Movement is absolutely committed to the cease-fire. Today we were asking Oger Libnan to do certain things for us, like remove the sand barriers on this road or the At-Tayyunah Corniche. And we are, as I told you, asking schools to reopen and people to return to their homes.

Question: Some fear that the southern suburbs are a potential detonator that could plunge the country into strife again...

Answer: I assure you that the Movement has no intentions in that direction.

Question: The Movement need not have the intention. I say there are fears that one thing may lead to another until the situation erupts again.

Answer: Of course — those fears are always there. That is why we are saying that security measures are not enough to settle the problem; security measures can help, but they don't solve the basic problem. Only political dialogue can solve the basic problem.

What future do I see for the southern suburb? Is it to keep the Amal Movement as the ruler of the southern suburb? Is it to establish a local administration or a state in the southern suburb? That is absolutely out of the question. It is the Amal Movement that stands against partition and is fighting partition.

That is why we are calling on the suburb development committee and the ministries to play their role in the suburb and elsewhere. In the final analysis, who will take over the suburb? The state will. We are not an alternative to the state and legitimacy; we are not an alternative to a just state and just legitimacy — we must add the word "just" here because not every state is a state. It must happen by dialogue. The Lebanese Army and the Internal Security Forces are the ones that must take over the southern

suburb — but only after political accord. In other words, the present situation is a temporary one that was imposed on us by the things that happened.

As to how it was imposed on us... I don't want to go back to the painful past, but I will ask one question:

The Amal Movement, which fought for the state and for the Army, which defended the barracks, which was always on the side of legitimacy, which was the first to hand over the southern suburb, including the Al-Murayjah area to the Lebanese Army — why has this Movement in a period of seven or eight months performed such an about turn, and why did all the people in that area turn against the things that were happening? Why? Why did this happen? Why don't the rulers ask themselves this question? Why don't they ask Lebanese public opinion this question? Is it because the Amal Movement has changed? Is it possible for a popular movement like Amal to change so much in six or seven months?

Why did this happen? Why? God forgive them! God forgive them!

Question: What future do you see for the south, in the light of Israel's establishment of a Shi'ite army to face the militias which are already present there? Do you see the south going through the same experience that the mountains have been through?

Answer: This was the subject of an appeal I addressed last Saturday to our people in the south — our Christian people and our Moslem people — and I would repeat part of that appeal now:

The pretext that is being used in the south to establish the Shi'ite army — Israel is exploiting the present circumstances, of course — is the presence of Lebanese Forces barracks in the south. Those barracks have thousands of fighters, and these sometimes set up artillery positions, as they did over Al-Ghaziyah yesterday, and they sometimes set up roadblocks where they insult and humiliate people, etc.

I have yet to understand why the Lebanese Forces are present in such numbers and with such weapons in an area which is famous for its Moslem-Christian coexistence. Did you know that in 1958, with all that was happening in Beirut and other areas, not one Moslem-Christian incident occurred in the south? From 1975 until now, have any Moslem-Christian clashes or massacres occurred in the south? Where? Give me one example. I come from a mixed (Moslem-Christian) village, and the neighboring village is mixed. Most villages in the south are like that: one-sect villages, purely Christian or purely Moslem, are very few. So why are the Lebanese Forces there in their barracks with their weapons?

Some may say the Lebanese Forces are there because of the Amal Movement. But it is a known fact that in the south, especially with the Israelis there, no Amal element is allowed to step out in the street with a weapon — not even a knife. We used to have some weapons in the south, but Israel took some of them and is still looking for the rest. They found an arms cache near An-Nabatiyah two days ago and seized it. So the Amal Movement has no arms in the south. What other fighters are there in the south? The Palestinians are not there as fighters, and the National Movement is not there as a fighting force. So lesson of the mountains is still imprinted in our minds, in our bodies, in our dead. What is the justification?

I will tell you frankly that in the first meeting of the Security Committee, I asked our delegate, Dr. Ayyub Humayyid, to discuss the matter with the delegate of the Lebanese Forces. Why are they in the south? Why don't they pull out of the south? If they don't, the existing pretexts will increase. The so-called Shi'ite army is still only a nucleus. Because of the Movement's information activities in the south and the refusal to cooperate with Israel, Israel has so far been unable to do much; this so-called army is still very small. But my worst fear is that some incident may be arranged....

I tell you frankly, there are many fears. For instance, our brothers in Harat Sayda are afraid because there are three (Lebanese Forces) barracks surrounding them. My greatest fear is that some incident may be instigated, that some small or big massacre may be committed. If that should happen, people might forget many of their principles and respond in kind. And what would the consequences be then?

Answer continues: Through *Monday Morning*, I will tell you what the consequences would be: There would be massacres in most parts of the south, not in one area only, and this would lead to displacement, to disaster, to the greatest danger that could possibly be posed to Lebanon. Why? Because the Lebanese south is the protective shield on the Lebanese-Israeli borders.

The solution lies in the withdrawal of the Lebanese Forces from the Lebanese south. And I can guarantee that if they withdraw, there will be no more room for ideas like a Shi'ite army, a Sunnite army, etc.

Question: How can you guarantee anything when it's Israel that is establishing the Shi'ite army?

Answer: I'll tell you how I can guarantee it: So far, despite the presence of those barracks and the Lebanese Forces, which have been in the South for six or seven months, they (the Israelis) have been unable to put together a Shi'ite army of more than 300 people. Even with the presence of that bugbear with which they are trying to frighten people, they have not succeeded so far. How can they succeed if the bugbear is removed?

That is why I can guarantee it. And I can guarantee it because of my presence there — the presence of the Amal Movement. It is the Amal Movement that represents the people, and I know, as all the world knows, what the trends of the Amal Movement are.

And let us assume that you have suspicions about the Amal Movement. Well, the Amal Movement has no arms in the south. You (the Lebanese Forces) can remain in the south as citizens, just like the Amal Movement. Can they claim that the Amal Movement has ever issued a threat against them, or that some village has threatened any Christian village? No. So what is the justification? And if Israel withdraws, who is supposed to take over? The Lebanese Army. Are they afraid

that the Lebanese Army will massacre Christians?

Question: The Israelis have begun to make it more difficult for the Lebanese to go to the South across Al-Awwali line. What effect do you think this move will have? Is this the beginning of partition?

Answer: I don't want to talk about a fragmented south as a separate issue. But you may ask me the obvious question: Since the Amal Movement is for the annulment of the Lebanese-Israeli agreement, and since much is being said about the things Israel is going to do to the south, what alternative means do you have for the liberation of Lebanon?

I say give me Lebanese unity as a result of a real dialogue, and I can assure you that Lebanon will be liberated in two or three months. What evidence do I have of this?

Just cast one glance at Israeli society and Lebanese society. Have you ever heard of an enemy that occupies a land and then, when he wants to withdraw from it or from part of it because he needs to and because his people demand it, the occupied people tell him, "Stay, for God's sake"? What does this show? It shows, for one thing, that there is fragmentation in Israeli society: More than half of Israel is demanding the total withdrawal of the Israeli army from Lebanon — you know what the Labor Party alone represents.

Am I saying that Israeli society is better than Lebanese society in this? Yes, I am: On this matter, Israeli society is better than Lebanese society. Strikes and rallies are being organized in Israel. The other day, 15,000 people held a rally demanding withdrawal. Some reservists are refusing to join the army because they refuse to go to Lebanon. Israeli society is exerting pressure towards an unconditional Israeli withdrawal.

In contrast, Lebanese society is divided and sometimes demanding that the Israelis remain in some areas. Why? Because we are afraid that we will go back to fighting each other. Half of us — maybe less, maybe more — are against Israel withdrawing without an agreement. But my dear fellows, half of Israel is demanding an Israeli withdrawal without an agreement. Why should I give Israel an agreement?

So a close look at Israeli society and Lebanese society will give you the answer. If we achieve internal Lebanese unity, we can address ourselves to international public opinion as a whole. If the Lebanese authorities or the Lebanese Forces are depending on America, America would exert much more pressure on Israel if there were a united Lebanese position than if only half or one quarter or one third of Lebanon was speaking. The same applies to the Soviet Union, to Europe, and so on....

There is no separate southern issue. There is the issue of south Lebanon, which means the Lebanese issue. To go back to the beginning of this interview, the Lebanese issue can be settled by Lebanese dialogue, by finding internal Lebanese unity, which could have an effect on our friends and would definitely have an effect on our enemies.

Syria Reinforces Positions in Al-Biqa'

NC260914 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0845 GMT 26 Oct 83

[Text] Security reports from Al-Biqa' mentioned that the Syrians have reinforced their positions on the ridges overlooking the Al-Biqa' plain by bringing in additional forces. The reports said that over the past 24 hours, the Israeli forces conducted maneuvers with live ammunition in the area extending from the Ar-Rafid plain up to the western heights of Mount Hermon. Tanks were also used in the maneuvers.

Israeli, Syrian Concentrations Reported

NC261208 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1155 GMT 26 Oct 83

[Text] A security source has confirmed that military concentrations are now taking place along the Israeli-Syrian confrontation line in Al-Biqa'. The security source did not give any further details.

VOL Says Syria Sends Car Bombs to Beirut

NC261615 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1515 GMT 26 Oct 83

[Text] The Syrian intelligence service has established a training camp for terrorist operations titled the Islamic Mission Scouts [Kashshaf Ar-Risalah Al-Islamiyah] in the An-Nabi Shit township in the Al-Biqa'. The Voice of Lebanon has learned that 250 saboteurs have been graduated from the aforementioned camp by Syrian officers. They were then taken to another camp 30 km from Damascus, where they took special courses on sabotage and car booby-trapping.

Within this context, a specialized ring belonging to the Syrians steals cars from various Lebanese areas and takes them to Brital township in Ba'labakk via a road constructed between Ash-Shuwayfat and the As-Sullum quarter in Beirut's southern suburb. In Brital, the cars are booby-trapped and their engine and license numbers are replaced. The cars are then taken by Syrian agents to Beirut. Three Syrian intelligence officers supervise the booby-trapping in coordination with the Hezbollah group and a man from the (?Tumays) family.

In the meantime, the Hezbollah group provides Abu Musa [Sa'id Musa Muragha] followers with forged Lebanese identity cards to enable them to infiltrate into Beirut. A Palestinian group managed to reach Beirut from Sidon by sea earlier and met with the Amal Movement for coordination. Other reports received by the Voice of Lebanon say that terrorists belonging to the Red Brigades have recently entered Beirut.

Southern Beirut, Mountain Calm 27 October

NC270852 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0800 GMT 27 Oct 83

[Text] Calm has been prevailing in the southern suburb of Beirut and in the mountain areas since this morning. The situation is

calm and normal in Tripoli and no significant incident has been reported. Internal Security Forces, patrolling in vehicles and on foot, are deployed throughout the city. However, tension still prevails in the areas where clashes broke out yesterday, particularly the areas near the Al-Barid and Al-Baddawi camps where military preparations are reportedly underway. The two rival sides have brought in reinforcements and sporadic gunfire and some shell fire can be heard in the areas of the clashes.

Army Positions Under Fire; IDF Patrol Withdraws
NC271026 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 27 Oct 83

[Text] Security sources indicate that the army positions in the Al-Qammatiyah-Suq al-Gharb area have been under gunfire since 1115. Our correspondent in the south reports that an Israeli convoy comprising 4 tanks, 10 armored vehicles, and 1 bulldozer, which moved yesterday to the Ar-Rumaylah, Al-Jiyah, and Al-Kharrub region, accompanied by an Israeli gunboat cruising along the coast, returned to Al-Awwali Bridge this morning.

At dawn today, Israeli forces entered As-Sarafand and arrested Hikmat Yunis.

Italian Commander on Defense Readiness
AU261538 Rome ANSA in English 1530 GMT 26 Oct 83

[Text] (ANSA) - Rome, October 26 — Italy is fully prepared to defend itself if attacked in Beirut, according to General Franco Angioni, the officer in command of the Italian contingent in the multinational peacekeeping force in Beirut.

In an interview in Rome's *"Al Repubblica"* daily today, Angioni took great diplomatic care in replying to questions carrying political implications. He said, for example, that he believed it was right from a "humane" point of view for Italy to keep forces in Beirut.

"The intentions and the desire of the Italian Government and of the army chief of staff are still those of contributing to the process of pacification in Lebanon", Angioni said.

"And it is for this reason", he added, "that the Italian soldier considers his duty to be proper".

Angioni gave assurances that everything was being done to reduce the risks to which Italian soldiers may be exposed in Lebanon to a minimum, and orders to that effect have been handed down by the army chief of staff. The Italian contingent, he added, has experimented [with] defense exercises for the past fourteen months. "We hope they stand up to the test, which we hope never comes", the general said.

Press on U.S. Stance on Beirut Developments
NC261123 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0500 GMT 26 Oct 83

[Press review]

[Excerpt] The newspaper *Al-Anwar* deals editorially with the U.S. stance regarding the Lebanese issue and says: President Reagan's statements on the U.S. vital interests in Lebanon are reassuring inasmuch as they are fear-inspiring. There is no guarantee to Lebanon stronger than viewing it on the basis of being the front line of defense of freedom, the West, and oil and on the basis of the view that the future of the free world and of the moderate Arab states is attached to the victory or defeat in the small homeland.

However, in the absence of solutions and firm decisions, this can become a sign of a prolonged freeze coupled with explosions with no changes whatsoever. Also, by suggesting that the bloody Sunday in Beirut was an answer to U.S. and French stances in the Gulf war between Iraq and Iran brings again to light what Washington itself disregarded at times: that the dialogue among the Lebanese is governed by a complex network of interests and lasting regional and international conflicts which have no diplomatic solutions.

On the same subject, the newspaper *Al-'Amal* says: President Reagan is facing in Lebanon a practical and realistic test of the fundamentals and slogans he has carried with him to the White House. Terrorism is active in our country, and massacres are committed one after the other, be they by booby-trapped vehicles, by snipers, or by the Syrian guns and rocket launchers which sponsored the mountain massacres recently.

The practical and real salvation of Lebanon requires decisive and definite support of the top, clear, and accurate program which President Amin al-Jumayyil is implementing. The salvation of Lebanon is the salvation of democracy and freedom and is the real victory which President Reagan can achieve within the framework of his three triple-dimension fundamentals.

Lebanese President Telephones Al-Asad 26 Oct
JN261841 Damascus Television Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 26 Oct 83

[Text] Lebanese President Mr Amin al-Jumayyil telephoned President Hafiz al-Asad this evening. The conversation dealt with the Lebanese situation and the national dialogue conference.

Western Powers Plan 'Aggression' Against Syria
JN270629 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0415 GMT 27 Oct 83

[Text] Washington — Reports from the U.S. capital say that intensive contacts are being held between the Reagan Administration and the Zionist enemy government on coordination of roles in the plan that will be discussed in Paris today by the foreign ministers of the NATO countries participating in the Multinational Force in Lebanon. Citing sources close to the White House, these reports say that the plan includes a military action that will be planned by the Western states and executed by Israel. This action will be in the form of an aggression against Syria. Washington sources say that U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz will visit the Zionist entity following the Paris meeting. Reports have also revealed that the enemy War Minister, Moshe Arens, will visit Washington next week to discuss details of this aggression with the United States. Citing reports from Al-Biqa', Beirut radio says that the Israeli forces are being concentrated opposite the Syrian forces' positions there.

Damascus on U.S. Military Threats Against Syria
JN261509 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1240 GMT 26 Oct 83

[Unattributed talk from "On the Events" program]

[Text] Before the two explosion incidents involving the headquarters of the U.S. Marines and French paratroopers in Beirut, the U.S. approach in the region was a military one. News agencies used to report the threats made by U.S. officials against Syria and the Lebanese nationalist forces. In his last statement before the explosions, President Reagan threatened and warned. When asked about a possible defeat for his administration in Lebanon, similar to the one sustained by the United States in Vietnam, Reagan replied that the *New Jersey* did not exist in Vietnam. It was clear from his words that Reagan was determined to use force if he was not able to engineer the situation in the region according to his plans and projects.

In his first comment on the explosions, Reagan said that the West must be more prepared than before to control the Middle East. He also said that the United States has vital interests in Lebanon and that Lebanon's security is part of U.S. security. Thus, we get a real picture of Washington's policy in the region. The explosion incident will not introduce a new U.S. policy in the region, but rather serve as a catalyst to expedite the U.S. Administration's plans. This time, the United States will resort to a military solution, and will exploit the two explosion incidents to heighten the tension militarily. After that, it will embark on a military adventure, which several U.S. officials have talked about, as a reprisal for the two explosions. The target will be Syria, which President Reagan said constitutes a stumbling block to his plans and projects.

Thus, it is said in the comments of military and political analysts that the ships now heading toward the Lebanese shores, and the increase in the number of U.S. forces to 10,000 soldiers, are not for the purpose of protecting the Marines, but for launching an aggression against Syria and the Lebanese nationalist forces in order to control Lebanon first, then subjugate the Arab homeland by force. These old U.S. dreams are known to the Arabs and the whole world.

The threat to use force and the dispatch of ships and forces for aggressive tasks confirm that the United States is not displaying the characteristics of a superpower, which must be responsible for world peace and security rather than become a cause for tension and explosive situations in more than one part of the world. Threatening an independent sovereign state is contrary to international laws and norms, especially when the threats are based on possibilities and assumptions.

We will not submit to political blackmail and military threats. Nor will we retreat from our declared firm stands, which are to firmly oppose all plans and projects to dominate the Arab homeland and turn it into imperialist protectorates, regardless of the costs.

Damascus Radio on U.S. Military Moves in Lebanon
JN261534 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1240 GMT 26 Oct 83

[Mustafa Bajbuj report in "On the Events" program]

[Text] Instead of calming down the situation in Lebanon and reconsidering its erroneous policy which has caused damage to that fraternal country, Washington has exploited the incident involving the explosion of the headquarters of the U.S. and French forces in order to heighten the tension and to expand the scope of its military presence in Beirut prior to taking the next step, which has been prepared for a long time; namely, direct and complete U.S. military involvement in the region.

We can say that this step began with the decision that was made by the U.S. National Security Council on the redeployment of the U.S. Marine Forces in various part of Beirut. This is a development which observers have considered a new and direct occupation of nationalist Beirut and its southern suburb by the U.S. forces in order to liquidate the Lebanese nationalist forces in the capital. This increases the direct U.S. military involvement in Lebanon.

At the same time, scores of military warships carrying thousands of U.S. soldiers, are headed toward Lebanon, as U.S. Pentagon sources have announced. Undoubtedly, the control of nationalist Beirut and its southern suburb is only one phase of the plan to control the whole of Lebanon in order to turn it later into a base for aggression against Syria in particular, and the Arab homeland in general and to implement the U.S.-Zionist plan to domi-

nate the entire region. This is not a remote possibility, but an old U.S. plan which was announced only a few hours after the explosion incident in Beirut. Otherwise, what did the U.S. secretary of state mean when he said that Syria is responsible for everything taking place in Lebanon, whether it is aware of it or not?

The U.S. moves in Lebanon have not surprised anyone, considering that these moves signal an established and well-known line in U.S. policy based on aggression and the iron fist policy. They also signal a premeditated plan by the U.S. and Zionist Administrations. This is how one can explain the dimensions of the new U.S. military moves in Lebanon. The United States has never given up its attempts to dominate the Arab region. It is continuing these attempts by various means to stand against the Arab people's will and struggle.

It must be affirmed here that any U.S. attempt to justify the aggression through the explosion incident will be unsuccessful and will fail. The U.S. aim is known, because it is not a new plan but an old plan; a plan which uses imperialist-Zionist ambitions in the region as a guideline and work program.

AL-BA'TH Urges Arab Preparation for U.S. Schemes

JN260940 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0445 GMT 26 Oct 83

[Press review]

[Text] Under the headline "Let Us Be More Prepared To Face the Various Eventualities," *Al-Ba'th* says: It has been ascertained that Washington observers were completely right when they mentioned that the Reagan administration would try to use its European allies and its agents in the Middle East to take advantage of the explosion that occurred at the U.S. Marines' headquarters in Beirut in a way that will serve its stategic objectives. In fact, serious implementation of the operation to exploit this incident started yesterday. Pentagon sources confirmed that scores of U.S. war vessels and thousands of U.S. soldiers are on their way to Lebanon. Also, the U.S. President stated the day before yesterday that Lebanon is of major interest to the United States. Observers interpret Reagan's statements and the beginning of the operation to increase the U.S. military presence in the region as meaning that Washington is now trying to implement an old scheme, the objective of which is to transform Lebanon into a permanent NATO base.

The paper adds: It has become evident that the U.S. Administration is seeking to involve Western European countries in its schemes for the Middle East. To do this, Reagan called on his allies to convene an urgent meeting on Thursday in order to study the so-called situation that resulted from the Beirut explosion. Some Western papers and political figures have cautioned Western countries against being swept along with the U.S. decision to become more and more involved in the Middle East. However, the majority of Western countries seem to have become more enthusiastic about getting involved than the Americans themselves. Of course, Israel will assume a prominent role in the scheme the Reagan Administration plans to carry out in our region.

It was also announced that U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz left for Europe on an urgent mission, while Robert McFarlane left for Lebanon. The paper says: It has also been announced that a ranking Pentagon delegation will leave for occupied Palestine in the next few days for talks that have been described as urgent. The purpose of the talks is to study the situation in Lebanon, border issues, and security in the Middle East.

In view of this intensive U.S. activity in various directions, which was accompanied by threats from ranking U.S. officials to carry out aggressions, the region will witness developments whose consequences cannot be predicted. The Reagan administration's invasion of Grenada is only the precursor of military acts in our region that will be more serious than either the invasion of Grenada or what some expect.

Al-Ba'th concludes by saying: We must say that the U.S. Administration has realized that most of its schemes to Americanize the region have failed thanks to the maturity and struggle of Arab nation's masses under Arab Syria's leadership. Therefore, one cannot rule out the possibility that the United States will use Israel and its agents to carry out an act of aggression against Syria, or against the Lebanese national forces in particular. This is because Reagan and George Shultz, his secretary of state, consider Syria to be the major obstacle standing in front of the U.S. schemes, specifically in front of the scheme to Americanize the region. In view of this fierce U.S.-NATO-Zionist onslaught seeking to harm the Arab nation's present and future, it is necessary for the Arab masses and the forces of peace and progress in the world to be more alert and more prepared to confront the various eventualities.

Official Source Condemns U.S. Grenada Action

JN261856 Damascus Television Service in Arabic 1841 GMT 26 Oct 83

[Text] An official source has stated the following:

On 25 October, the United States carried out a military invasion of the Republic of Grenada, which is a UN and a Nonaligned Movement member-state under the slogan of preserving U.S. security and interests and restoring security and stability to the island.

This aggressive action constitutes a flagrant violation of the UN Charter and international law as well as a violation of the independence and sovereignty of a UN member-state. This action also constitutes a dangerous phenomenon in international relations that threats the security and independence of world peoples.

As it warns the international community against the seriousness of this military plot and this aggressive scheme, the Government of the Syrian Arab Republic, strongly condemns this invasion and calls for the immediate withdrawal of the invading U.S. Forces to enable the people of Grenada to determine their fate and practice their right to sovereignty and independence.

Damascus Commentary on Invasion

JN261521 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 26 Oct 83

[Station commentary]

[Text] The United States, which is the leader of the capitalist world, has sent it warships and soldiers to invade the island of Grenada in the Caribbean Sea. The Pentagon has announced that its forces of invasion occupied two airports on the island, seized the radio station, and took control of the situation there despite the presence of resistance. In order to have an idea about the importance of the great military victory that the United States has realized, we should remember that the total number of Grenada's inhabitants does not equal the population of one street in New York, and that all of Grenada's inhabitants, including old people and children, can find seats for themselves in New York's sports hall, Madison Square Garden.

By recalling this fact, one can understand the seriousness of the danger that Grenada poses to the United States and the other pro-U.S. Caribbean states. They are the same dangers that the lamb posed to the wolf in the well-known childrens' story. One needs a special type of mentality to believe the statements of U.S. President Reagan and his Secretary of States Shultz on U.S. determination to set up democracy in a small country whose area is not more than 344 km and whose inhabitants liberated themselves from colonialism, chose the type of rule that suits them, and refused to be slaves to the U.S. vegetable companies or to the U.S. ITT telecommunications' monopolies.

By its invasion of Grenada, the United States has proved again that its talk about freedom, self-determination, democracy, and peoples' honor is as false in the American Continent as it is false in the Middle East. It also proved that any danger that threatens peace and security and peoples' freedom, and their right to self-determination and to choose the type of their rule, comes from the United States and its satellite states and not from peoples who struggle for the sake of freedom and progress. The invasion of Grenada also gives evidence that the U.S. rulers, especially President Reagan, disregard international law and the principles of the UN Charter. This operation also constitutes an obvious example of flagrant, brutal interference in other countries' internal affairs and of reliance on force in international relations.

The step that the United States has taken in Grenada will further complicate the international situation and increase tension in the world. It will increase the possibilities of confrontation in the various parts of the world. If we add to the invasion of Grenada the incidents concerning the installation of U.S. nuclear missiles in Europe, the U.S. shift from the policy of international detente to the policy of confrontation and arms race, U.S. provocative actions in the Middle East and its military concentrations in this region, as well as its support for the Israeli invasion of Lebanon, we will find ourselves before a very dangerous U.S. trend; a trend that will threaten world security and peace and lead mankind to the brink of a big, destructive explosion that might affect all peoples of the world.

The aggressive U.S. action in Grenada shows the extent of adventurism to which the U.S. rulers might go in an attempt to realize cheap victories and create incidents to cover their setbacks and failure in some parts of the world, including the Middle East. This adventurist trend requires all peoples, especially the Middle East peoples and the Arab nation, to be extremely cautious, vigilant, and alert to confront all possibilities. Those who have trodden the UN Charter, international law, and peoples' rights in Grenada, and who have supported the Israeli invasion of Lebanon and moved to the stage of direct military involvement in Lebanon are prepared for any irresponsible and adventurist action in any part of the world, including the Middle East.

While they are challenging the United Nations and the international community, it might be useful for the U.S. rulers to recall that the Middle East is not Grenada, that the Arab homeland is not the Caribbean islands, and that this region of the world is a region in which many interests blend into one another. It is also a region which is located near the borders of the Soviet Union and the socialist bloc countries. Those who take the risk of violating law, using force, and challenging peoples will bear the full responsibility for all the consequences. The U.S. rulers in particular, should remember that they have interests in the Middle East and they are concerned about them. However, they fail to improve them and protect them from the people's masses who cannot remain silent over aggression, provocation, and challenge. Whatever the U.S. power may be, the peoples who defend their freedom, independence, lands, rights, and honor are more powerful and more able to achieve victory.

AL-BA'TH on U.S. Action in Grenada, Lebanon

JN270829 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0445 GMT 27 Oct 83

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headline "The U.S. Invasion: From the Caribbean to the Middle East," *Al-Ba'th* says: The words and deeds of the United States these days carry no weight whatsoever. The flagrant U.S. aggression against Grenada; the insistence on further military involvement in Lebanon following the recent explosions; and the haphazard statements and accusations by Shultz, Reagan, and the rest of the U.S. officials to justify these actions show the state of confusion and impotence of the U.S. Administration as a result of Reagan's aggressive policy which he has been following from the beginning and on which he has based the U.S. relations with others.

How can one believe that Grenada, the smallest country in the world, whose population does not exceed 100,000 and whose area is 344 square km, constitutes a threat to the U.S. security as Washington's rulers claim? Similarly, how can the situation in a country like Lebanon, 10,000 miles away from the United States, constitute a threat to Washington's security and vital interests?

Al-Ba'th adds: Indeed, Washington's logic in tackling inter national issues is amazing and surprising, and gives the impression that the Reagan Administration is serious in its efforts to return the world to the old colonialist era. It is a serious precedence in international relations for a superpower like the

United States to practice flagrant acts of piracy against small states by violating their sovereignty and independence, flouting international principles of freedom and peoples' self-determination, and attempting to justify the use of force by contradictory claims which are neither responsible nor proper for a superpower to make.

Al-Ba'th says: It seems that invasion and aggression are a natural thing in accordance with the U.S. Administration's lexicon. This explains how the United States allowed Israel to invade Lebanon and then entered Lebanon as a direct party in the fighting. This aggressive policy holds in contempt all UN and international resolutions and principles. The U.S. officials, therefore, should not be surprised if this policy results in one failure after another.

Washington's acts in Grenada and in the Lebanese territory and waters; its new moves in coordination with the NATO states and Israel to face what it calls the disturbing Middle East situation; the U.S. officials' rude accusations against the states in the region, particularly Syria; and the U.S. moves to deploy nuclear missiles in Western Europe show the impotence and failure of Washington's policies and constitute a very serious approach that threatens world security. In conclusion, *Al-Ba'th* says: However, the U.S. rulers must remember the Vietnamese lesson.

Palestine Broadcast Assails U.S. 'Barbaric Game'

JN260737 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 26 Oct 83

[Palestine Broadcast: from "On The Events" program]

[Text] Our brothers on the path of revolution and liberation, from Lebanon to Grenada, the U.S. clown Ronald Reagan is showing his teeth and exercising the barbaric game of killing in the name of the alleged free world in order to serve the forces of darkness and facism. He is determined to promote the U.S. imperialist hegemony, even though seas of blood and mountains of skulls are left behind his forces of aggression in every direction from which he feels that the peoples' will for liberation and independence is threatening the U.S. imperialist interests of monopoly, its multinational companies, and the Zionist-imperialist alliance of aggression.

The Grenada example is a model of Reagan's premeditated plans against all or most of the Arab homeland countries, because some of these countries are strong and their flesh is not weak — something which Reagan and his allies must realize. He and his allies must also realize that hundreds of thousands of Marines, which are supported by agent armies, cannot do anything against these countries.

Regardless of the conflict's enormity and the size of the conflicting forces, the primary fact is that this savage and aggressive U.S. trend must certainly flare up the will of resistance against it. This will cannot only appear in isolated and small islands, but will necessarily expand to include many parts of the world — including the United States' allies, whose governments are adopting subservient policies in favor of Washington and its aggressive plans.

The forces of freedom and progress in the world will not allow the imperialist aggressor to play havoc with the peoples' fates. The American people will find themselves obliged to move against their rulers when they see that their sons are returning to them either dead, injured, or disabled from the battles of aggression against these people. The aggressor can harm the party against which the aggression was waged, but he cannot protect himself from its resistance and the blows it deals to the arms of his aggression. The Americans will also find themselves obliged to wonder for whose sake and for what purpose these losses are. The answer is clear. The United States is exercising its aggression and threatening world peace and security in order to protect facist regimes and its own monopoly interests.

Al-Asad Receives PASOK Delegation 26 Oct

JN261544 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1407 GMT 26 Oct 83

[Text] Damascus, 26 Oct (SANA) — President Hafiz al-Asad received here this afternoon the delegation of the Panhellenic Socialist Movement [PASOK] led by (Dhaskalakis Pourgos), member of the Party's Executive Secretariat. Comrade Muhammd Haydar, member of the Arab Socialsit Ba'th Party National Command, and the Greek ambassador in Damscus attended the meeting. (Pourgos) conveyed the greetings of Greek Prime Minister Andre Papandreou to Al-Asad as well as his appreciation of Syria's role and stands. The president thanked him and asked him to convey his greetings to Prime Minister Andre Papandreou and the friendly Greek people. During the meeting, the talks dealt with the situation in the region, the friendly relations between Syria and Greece, as well as the friendly relations between the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party and PASOK, and the means to develop them in various fields.

Al-Ahmar Receives Lebanese Party Delegation

JN261541 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1410 GMT 26 Oct 83

[Text] Damascus, 26 Oct (SANA) — Comrade 'Abdallah al-Ahmar, assistant secretary general of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party, received here today an Independent Lebanese National Regrouping delegation led by Dr Samir Sabbagh, assistant secretary of the Ba'th Party Organization's Regional command in Lebanon. Talks dealt with the latest Lebanese developments resulting from the Zionist invasion, Phalangist hegemony, and U.S. interference in favor of the Phalangists and against the Lebanese nationalists. Comrade al-Ahmar stressed the importance of dialogue in achieving a Lebanese national accord based on canceling the humiliating agreement imposed on Lebanon and carrying out reforms in the Lebanese regime in order to ensure unity and equality among all the Lebanese. Comrade al-Ahmar also stressed Syria's support for the Lebanese nationalist forces under the leadership of the National Salvation Front in their struggle for an Arab, unified, and independent Lebanon.

Dr Sabbagh said that all the Lebanese nationalists thank Syria — leadership, government, and party — for the effective support it is extending to the Lebanese people and national forces in their confrontation of the hostile schemes and their struggle to get rid of the Israeli occupation without any restrictions or conditions.

Ash-Shar' Receives Polish Party Delegation

JN261537 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1404 GMT 26 Oct 83

[Text] Damascus, 26 Oct (SANA) — Faruq ash-Shar', minister of state for foreign affairs, met here today with the Polish United Workers Party delegation, which is currently visiting Syria, at the invitation of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party National Command. 'Abd al-Karim as-Sabbagh, director of information at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and the Polish ambassador in Damascus attended the meeting. During the meeting, the situation in the region in general, the situation in Lebanon in particular, and bilateral relations between the two friendly parties and countries were discussed.

Officials Discuss Cooperation With Romanians

JN261551 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1415 GMT 26 Oct 83

[Text] Damascus, 26 Oct (SANA) — Dr 'Abd al-Jabbar ad-Dahhak, minister of oil and natural resources, this morning received Nicolae Constantin, member of the Executive Political Committee of the Central Committee of the Romanian Communist Party, and chairman of the Central Committee of the General Trade Union Confederation of Romania, and his delegation. Present at the meeting were a number of the ministry's senior officials and the Romanian ambassador in Damascus. Talks during the meeting dealt with the existing cooperation between Syria and Romania, particularly in relation to the projects constructed by Romania in Syria, foremost of which are the Baniyas oil refinery and the phosphate dehydration factories. Dr ad-Dahhak underlined the need for removing all obstacles preventing the progress of work in these projects, particularly in relation to spare parts. It was agreed to secure all spare parts inthe appropriate time. It was also agreed to train Syrian cadres by Romanian technicians who are running the Baniyas refinery with our own technical cadres.

Arab People's Conference To Meet 27 Oct

JN270720 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0415 GMT 27 Oct 83

[Text] The opening session of the committees emanating from the Permanent Secretariat and the International Secretariat of the Arab People's Conference will begin in Damascus at 1200 today. The opening session will be attended by the Arab People's Conference members present in Damascus; representatives of the Arab liberation movements, pan-Arab organizations and trade union representatives; representatives of the Syrian Lawyers Union; and some law professors from Damascus University. It may be recalled that 'Umar al-Hamidi, secretary general of the Arab People's Conference has called on the Arab follow-up committee to form an international court with regard to Israel's crimes in Lebanon. He also called on the members of the preparatory committee of the symposium on the Arab homeland's basic democratic rights to attend this session. The session will be devoted to discussing the Lebanese political developments and the Arab situation in general.

Arens, IDF Officers Tour Attack Site in Lebanon

TA261535 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1510 GMT 26 Oct 83

["Defense Ministry Spokesman's Announcement" — ITIM headline]

[Text] Tel Aviv, 26 Oct (ITIM) — Defense Minister Prof Moshe Arens today toured the Tyre area, where two IDF soldiers were killed yesterday in a terrorist ambush.

The minister was accompanied by Chief of Staff Lieutenant General Moshe Levi, [Deputy Chief of Staff] Major General David 'Ivri, [Commander of the Northern Command] Amir Drori, [Chief of Training Corps] Major General Uri Sagi, and coordinator of Activities in Lebanon Uri Lubrani.

Arens on Relations With Lebanese Shi'ites

TA261938 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 26 Oct 83

[Interview with Defense Minister Moshe Arens by Mordekhay Kirschenbaum on 26 October during the minister's tour of the site of the terrorist attack in Lebanon where two IDF soldiers were killed on 25 October, — videotaped]

[Text] [Arens] Right now I would not say that relations between us and the Shi'ite population have worsened. Since our redeployment along the Al-Awwali River, I believe relations have been taking shape. We will make great efforts to achieve the sort of relations that will allow both of us to live; however, at this point it is too early to say where this will end.

[Kirschenbaum] Would you not attribute the latest attacks to this dangerous reawakening by the Shi'ites?

[Arens] I do not know. This is one of the questions we are still trying to answer to determine which element is active here: the Shi'ites, or the PLO, or Shi'ites on a PLO mission. At this point, the answer to this is unknown.

[Kirschenbaum] Some people here have been demanding [tov'im] that the Al-Awwali bridges be closed and that this could conceivably preempt attacks like the one that occurred here on the banana plantation yesterday. Do you also believe that closing the bridges is a solution?

[Arens] If I thought so today, I would have closed them today. This, too, is still being studied and there are differing views on the matter. At this point our policy is to maintain adequate, normal relations with the Lebanese central administration. In the end we would like to leave this territory, and we hope that it will be returned to the control of the central administration. Naturally, this does not harmonize with the closing of the bridges, which would, in effect, spell the partitioning of Lebanon.

On the other hand, if we reach the conclusion that free passage endangers us, and if we decide that it is difficult for us to confront such risks, we may reach the conclusion that there is no other alternative.

[Kirschenbaum] What more can we do in order to prevent or delay a process whereby southern Lebanon becomes something like Vietnam?

[Arens] There is no Vietnamization involved here, and I think any likening of the Lebanese situation to Vietnam is completely wrong. One must remember that Vietnam occurred thousands of kilometers away from the United States and that the security of the United States — certainly that of U.S. citizens — had nothing to do with what was happening in Vietnam. Lebanon, however, is Israel's northern neighbor and, unfortunately, firsthand experience has taught us that whatever happens in Lebanon has a direct effect on the physical security of the citizens of this country, in Metulla, Qiryat Shemona, and Nahariyya. Therefore, this is not Vietnam. Here this is a campaign for the security of Israel, a struggle for the safety of the citizens of Israel.

IDF Officers Meet Lebanese Shi'ite Leaders

TA261201 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1100 GMT 26 Oct 83

[Text] The leaders of the Shi'ites in An-Nabatiyah this morning conferred with IDF officers following recent events and announced they will do their best to maintain good relations and cooperation with the IDF. They emphasized they would not support violent acts led by by instigators who follow instructions from Beirut or Damascus. Our correspondent Hayim Hecht notes that IDF officers admitted that the incident which occurred during the religious procession in An-Nabatiyah stemmed from an Israeli officer's error, and that the appropriate lessons have been drawn. The officers nonetheless stressed that the IDF will not let attempts to attack Israeli soldiers or property go unnoticed.

David Levi Says Terrorists Still Active in Lebanon

TA261248 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1230 GMT 26 Oct 83

[Text] Deputy Prime Minister David Levi is saying that the anti-IDF terrorist acts in Lebanon are a reminder of the fact that the terrorists are still there. Just imagine, he said, what would have happened if the IDF had withdrawn to the international border.

David Levi talked with journalists while visiting the Dar'i family, which lost a son in southern Lebanon yesterday. Our correspondent in the north Menahem Horowitz notes that due to the mourning over the death of Corporal Mordekhay Dar'i, the celebrations planned in Bet She'an on the occasion of the Likud's victory in the local elections there have been canceled.

Peres Urges Cabinet To Decide on Lebanon Policy

TA261540 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1500 GMT 26 Oct 83

[Text] Labor Party Chairman Shim'on Peres has urged the Cabinet to reach a decision on the kind of policy it would like to implement regarding Lebanon soon; otherwise the situation will

only grow worse. He noted that everything that is currently happening in Lebanon is a direct result of terrorism. We should not surrender to this terrorism, he said, and neither should other countries.

Our correspondent Asher Schwartz reports that Peres was speaking at a meeting with an Israel Bonds delegation from the United States. He expressed his solidarity with the bereaved parents in the United States and France who lost their loved ones as a result of the attacks in Beirut, but added that bereaved mothers cannot make international agreements. That is why Israel, together with the United States and Europe, should work out a position on the next moves that are necessary in Lebanon.

Canadian Foreign Affairs Secretary Arrives

TA261421 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1300 GMT 26 Oct 83

[Text] Canadian Deputy Prime Minister and Secretary of State for External Affairs Allan MacEachen arrived in Israel a short time ago for a 2-day visit. He came from Jordan. He was received at Ben-Gurion Airport by Deputy Foreign Minister Yehuda Ben-Me'ir. The deputy foreign minister commented that in this week's attack in Beirut, the enemies of peace had proved that their efforts were succeeding. The Canadian minister said he would solicit Israel's views from the prime minister. Our correspondent Dan Eshel reports that MacEachen will meet with the prime minister tomorrow and with the president and leader of the opposition on 28 October.

Differences Noted

TA270617 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 27 Oct 83

[Text] The Canadian foreign secretary is a visitor in our country. In his remarks, he has argued in principle against the Government of Israel's policy in the territories. Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir, at a party last night in honor of the visitor, said that since the 1950's, military aid from one of the superpowers to Israel's neighbors had already ignited three wars, and this fact was also prolonging Lebanon's suffering at present. The prime minister was speaking at a dinner in honor of Canadian Deputy Prime Minister and Secretary of State for External Affairs Allan MacEachen. The prime minister and foreign minister added that now was the time to open negotiations on autonomy, in accordance with the Camp David agreements. He rejected the claims that the settlements in the territories are an obstacle to peace:

[Begin Shamir recording — in English] It has become customary to point at our settlements in Judaea and Samaria as the obstacles to peace, but the only real impediment to a peaceful resolution of the conflict, that is, the rejection of Israel's existence, is too often overlooked. [end recording]

The main differences of opinion between us, said the prime minister, have already become routine. People point at our settlements in the areas we hold in Judaea and Samaria as an obstacle to peace, but in fact the most significant obstacle to a peaceful solution of the conflict lies in the refusal to recognize our very right to exist. In his reply to this, the Canadian foreign secretary reviewed the good relations between Israel and Canada and emphasized that the links could certainly be strengthened in the fields of culture, commerce, and tourism. However, the visitor stressed that there were differences of opinion between Canada and Israel:

[Begin MacEachen recording — in English] We still have some differences. They have to do basically with our respective positions on contentious regional issues, principally the questions of settlements in the territories occupied in 1967, and the continued presence of the IDF in southern Lebanon. [end recording]

Further Remarks

TA270931 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0900 GMT 27 Oct 83

[Text] This morning Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir said that Syria was playing a negative role in Lebanon and was making every attempt to interfere in an arrangement [hesder] there that would guarantee the country's independence. Our correspondent Arye Golan reports that Minister Shamir made these remarks to the Canadian foreign secretary, who is visiting Israel. The visitor said that Syria's role in Lebanon was not yet clear to him. Yitzhaq Shamir also said at the meeting that it was important to persuade Egypt to agree to resume the talks about autonomy for the inhabitants of Judaea and Samaria.

Today the Canadian foreign secretary is going on a tour of Jerusalem. Tomorrow morning he is to meet with Labor Party Chairman Shim'on Peres and then with President Hayim Herzog. He will also conclude his visit to Israel tomorrow.

MA'ARIV Urges 'More Understanding' With U.S.

TA261553 Tel Aviv Ma'ariv in Hebrew 26 Oct 83 p 5

[Commentary by Moshe Zaq: "Chestnuts From The Fire"]

[Excerpt] When the U.S. President threatens the planners of the ugly crime in Beirut with retaliatory action, the impression must not be created that this is just an empty threat.

A warning evaluated by the other side as lacking teeth is more dangerous to the area's safety than any retaliatory action. The planners of the evil deed in Beirut know that the gigantic machine called the United States does not move easily. The great wheels of the giant machine can only begin to move when the wheels whose teeth grip the large wheels begin to move.

The attempt to move away from Israel by rejecting the aid it offered following the catastrophe in Beirut, or the attempts to blame Israel for the U.S. involvement, can only encourage the rivals of the United States in the Middle East who are trying to guarantee that the United States does not implement its warnings. Any alienation between Israel and the United States would be evidence of this.

Marine Captain Johnson, who was presented with a medal of honor by the U.S. secretary of defense this February, did not remain in Lebanon. However, he gained renown for having stopped a line of Israeli tanks on the outskirts of Beirut with his pistol. Today the story is recalled as an isolated incident and it is not worth rubbing salt into fresh wounds, but the halo surrounding Capt Johnson created the impression of a conflict of interest between the Marines and the IDF, which perhaps also encouraged the Syrians and their allies in Lebanon to believe they could break the Israeli-U.S.- Lebanese front. This atmosphere was a hotbed for all sorts of terrorist actions against the Lebanese Army, the Marines, and the IDF. Anyone who is interested in stopping the deterioration in Lebanon must see to the strengthening of the links connecting those with a common interest in an independent Lebanon capable of guarding its southern border, which is also Israel's northern border.

We can amuse ourselves with delusions of a possible arrangement with Syria regarding security zones in Lebanon. We can hide behind the slogan that Israel does not have to pull others' chestnuts out of the fire, but anyone who says this must remember that more than once we have asked others to pull our chestnuts out of the fire.

Even without a written, signed memorandum of understanding, we should aim at more understanding with the United States on a matter directly involving Israel's security: the safety of our northern border. And, for the sake of Israel's security in the long run, it is essential to guarantee that the United States will regard Israel as an ally, in time of trouble, too.

Muslim Al-'Amal 'Perpetrated' Beirut Bombings

TA270940 Jerusalem The Jerusalem Post in English 27 Oct 83 p 1

[Report by the defense correspondent]

[Text] Tel Aviv — A group called Moslem Al-'Amal, headed by Husayn (Musawi), perpetrated Sunday's attack on the American and French headquarters in Beirut, *The Jerusalem Post* was told here yesterday.

The attacks were reportedly planned by Syria. Moslem Al-'Amal broke away from the Shia Al-'Amal about a year ago and set up headquarters in Ba'labakk, in northeast Lebanon.

France, Italy Warned of Beirut-Like Attacks

TA261141 Tel Aviv Davar in Hebrew 26 Oct 83 p 1

["Exclusive" report from Paris by Gid'on Kutz]

[Excerpt] The Israeli intelligence services warned France and Italy of the possibility of an attack like the one in Beirut by Muslim terrorists in Europe. Radio Luxembourg, relying on an Italian source, reported that the Israelis gave a particular warning about a red Citroen car bearing Florence license plates that entered France.

Radio Luxembourg also reported that Israel had warned the United States several weeks before the Beirut explosions of an attack of the type that occurred.

HA'ARETZ Provides Background for Beirut Blasts

TA261134 Tel Aviv Ha'aretz in Hebrew 26 Oct 83 p 7

[Commentary by 'Oded Zaray: "The Enemy Is Not Anonymous"]

[Text] Last Saturday at 1000, local time, a black Mercedes with Lebanese license plate no 338804 arrived at the headquarters of the Shi'ite Al-Amal organization in the Burg al-Barajinah region of West Beirut. The car, which was accompanied by an armed white Land Rover, carried three senior, military, responsible men from among the Fatah rebels led by Abu Musa [Sa'id Musa Muragha]. One of the three was (Habib Siyam), who was responsible for the PLO camp in the area before the evacuation. The three men spent about 3 hours in the Al-Amal headquarters. The next day the relatives of the three senior, responsible men arrived in West Beirut. The three are from the group of cadres who reached the southern suburbs of Beirut, and from there the west of the city, last week in cars filled with weapons and explosive materials, using the Abu Musa route.

Superficially, this was not a particularly important event. In fact, this was one of a series of moves made over the last few weeks whose goal is to revive the remains of the terrorist infrastructure and expand it in West Beirut. Among those who arrived at the same time were experts in showcase terrorist actions from the Pupular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command, headed by Ahmad Jibril. They, or at least some of them, come from Damascus, from the headquarters of the pro-Syrian organizations. They spend a certain amount of time in the Lebanese Al-Biqa', at the Syrian intelligence headquarters also common to the Soviet military advisers, and from there they move on via the Beirut-Damascus highway in the Sawfar and Bhamdun regions to the Abu Musa trail from Baysur in the east to Ash-Shuwayfat in the west accompanied by Junblatt's personnel, who control the trail.

These are the elements active in the field, and the allies of Syria, which is under Soviet aegis. Every terrorist action, or shooting at Lebanese Army positions, the eastern (Christian) suburbs of Beirut, and the Multinational Force areas is carried out with this coordination and is guided by the Syrians. In the U.S. intelligence report, part of which was published in *Ha'aretz* on Sunday, 23 October, a clear picture is drawn of the Soviet experts' share in the general military activity being carried out in the 'Alayh and Ash-Shuf areas, as well as the upper Al-Matn region and Al-Biqa'. The visit by the three responsible people from the Fatah rebels to the Al-Amal headquarters completes the picture of cooperation with the military elements controlling part of the southern and western quarters of Beirut. From this it follows that the terrorist actions or shooting planned in these areas is coordinated and guided, directly or indirectly, by the operators in Damascus or Al-Biqa'. How much more does this apply to a showy, sophisticated, and very well-planned attack like the evil crime against Marine headquarters in Khaldah and the

French platoon command headquarters in Juniyah in West Beirut?

This picture, in even more detailed form, is well known to the Lebanese security elements and the headquarters of the Multinational Force, and particularly to the Americans, who have superb intelligence at their disposal. As for the incident mentioned above, Beirut sources claim that the Americans were warned about such showy attacks against them over the past few weeks on the basis of reliable information that indicated intensive Syrian attempts to infiltrate booby-trapped cars into West Beirut. Following Sunday's disaster, it is only natural that the communications media in the region and the world should wonder about the identity of the perpetrators, and fall into the "communications trap" generally laid by the real perpetrators, who allow an ephemeral organization to take responsibility for the crime.

'Arafat used this method in the murder of the Israeli athletes in Munich, when he hid behind Black September. This is also the method the Syrians are now using in Beirut. However, if the media can be permitted to err about the genuine identity of the perpetrators and draw the conclusion, at least in the first stages, that this involves an "anonymous enemy," this does not apply to those hit in this case, because both U.S. intelligence and French intelligence clearly know that the enemy is not anonymous at all.

Pointing an accusing finger at Iran might be a convenient political move for the Americans. However, any military man who has completed the lowest-level officers' course and has served in Lebanon for more than a month knows that even if Iran had wanted to carry out the attack on Khaldah and Juniyah, it could not have done so. The Iranians may have contributed two drivers from the revolutionary guards to drive the booby-trapped cars to their destinations, but it is doubtful that they were capable of more than that. Syrian control over what occurs in Lebanon has increased immeasurably since Junblatt's personnel and the terrorists took over the region from which Israel withdrew last month. There is no need to be a military man to understand the decisive importance of opening a route connecting Sawfar with Ash-Shuwayfat. The two booby-trapped trucks were able to take that route without any difficulty. At the same time, the explosive materials and mechanisms needed could have been transferred by the same route, in several shipments, and the two trucks prepared a small distance from Khaldah and Juniyah.

It is worth recalling that all those involved in the practical preparations for the action did not even have to work under pressure, since this was a question of a stationary target of forces deployed in small sectors who protect themselves with trenches and fences with a normal entry gate, forces that do not control a reasonable range of territory and do not take all the precautions required to prevent hostile actions in that range. The U.S. Marines in Khaldah do not control what occurs in the (Sulm) quarter, where there is sniping against them, or the Al-Fakihani region, where booby-trapped cars are prepared, for example. Not only that, during the entire period of their presence here, the Marines, in accordance with the policy dictated to them from Washington, have succeeded in dispelling the fears of all the elements hostile to them in Lebanon who have realized that "the devil is not so bad."

The forces of the greatest power in the world can be sniped at and even shelled without taking any risks. The U.S. Embassy in R'as Beirut can be blown up without the risk of a reaction. And, if this is so, why not dare to blow up Marine headquarters,particularly when this serves the much desired goal of bringing about the departure of the Multinational Force from Lebanon?

Actions of this type have immediate implications throughout the country. Not only does Syria's prestige increase in Lebanon and the pan-Arab arena as a whole, but the other elements working in other parts of the country are encouraged by this and step up their activities, elements such as the Shi'ites in the south. At the same time, the evil action strikes a blow at the rest of the elements in the Lebanese arena which are betting on the "U.S. card," just as happened to Israel's friends after the events of 'Alayh and Ash-Shuf. Those elements, today more than in the past — as the Beirut papers point out — look toward the U.S. Administration and its moves after the catastrophe. They do not ask themselves whether President Reagan will firmly insist on his position, that of leaving the Marines in Lebanon, but whether the United States will, this time too, let the incident pass and not react. In such a case, and especially if the U.S. Marines leave Khaldah for one of the aircraft carriers along the Beirut coast, the road to a repeated recognition of Lebanon as a Syrian dependency, with all that this implies for both the United States and Israel, may be shortened.

This road, which has been rejected out of hand by the Lebanese Administration and its supporters, has been put on the agenda again since the results of the Israeli withdrawal from 'Alayh and the Ash-Shuf hills. This road is no less tangible now, unless the atmosphere of despair now prevalent in Beirut changes.

Finance Minister Says Confidence Restored

TA261458 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1200 GMT 26 Oct 83

[Text]The finance minister is saying that he has already obtained is first goal, which is to restore the economy's proper functioning and to restore basic confidence in the economic system. In a review before the Knesset Finance Committee, he said that selling on the stock exchange had dropped 25 percent compared to the day before yesterday. The purchase of foreign currency has also significantly decreased.

One should now tackle the economic problems and, according to the finance minister, government expenditures should be cut to achieve this end. In Kohen-Orgad's opinion the economic processes should be introduced gradually. Our correspondent Gadi Sukenik reports that among other things Minister Kohen-Orgad supports an increase in the health, social welfare, and education services fees and in subsidies for people in the low-income brackets only. Among other things, the finance minister is demanding that higher education tuition fees be raised.

On the settlement budget, he said that only a third of the funds are intended for settlements located in the disputed area, which is outside the Allon plan, and that these funds are less than 2 percent of the overall civilian budget.

At the moment a comprehensive discussion is underway at the finance minister's office with the heads of the ministry's Budget Department on the plan for budget cuts.

Settlement Budget Announced

TA270944 Jerusalem The Jerusalem Post in English 27 Oct 83 p 2

[Report by economic affairs correspondent Avi Temkin]

[Text] The government planned in its original budget for the current fiscal year to invest some $400 million on settlements in the administered territories, Finance Minister Yigal Kohen-Orgad revealed yesterday.

Speaking to the Knesset Finance Committee, Kohen-Orgad said that the planned expenditure on settlements for fiscal 1983 amounted to some IS22 billion. This figure was based on a planned average rate of exchange of IS50 to the dollar. Since the rate of devaluation and inflation are running higher than originally planned, and taking into account a full linkage of government expenditure to inflation, the figure cited by Kohen-Orgad now translates into some IS35B. in current prices.

Kohen-Orgad told the committee members that two-thirds of the funds are earmarked for settlements included in the "Allon Plan," covering the Golan Heights, the Jordan Valley, the Jerusalem area, Gush 'Ezion and Qiryat Arba'. "Only IS7 billion of the total planned sum is to be spent in areas where disagreement exists between the Likud and the Alignment," he added. According to the minsiter, this represents 0.6 per cent of the total budget.

Shamir Adviser 'Satisfied' With Arab Elections

TA261054 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1000 GMT 26 Oct 83

[Text] The prime minister's adviser on Arab affairs, Binyamin Gur-Arye, is satisfied with the local election results in the Arab sector. In a talk with our correspondent Yo'el Dar, the adviser said that in four villages, Sakhnin, Kafr Manda, (Ba'na), and Deir al-Asad, the clan-sponsored lists managed to defeat the RAKAH front [HADASH]. According to Gur-Arye this will have a positive effect on relations between the local leaders and the authorities since these local clan leaders, the heads of the local village councils, prefer local interests to national political interests. Our correspondent notes that in contrast to this defeat of four local authorities, HADASH has won the council leadership in the villages of Judeida in the Galilee and At-Tira in the Triangle.

Alignment, Likud Claim Election Victories

TA261205 Tel Aviv Yedi'ot Aharonot in Hebrew 26 Oct 83 pp 1, 6

[Report by Bina Barzel, Menahem Rahat, and Mikhal Miron]

[Excerpt] "What is emerging is a very promising increase for the Alignment. Almost everywhere, including development towns, we have an increase in the number of council members. I am very encouraged by the results and regard this as the beginning of a political upheaval in Israel." This was said by Labor Party Chairman Shim'on Peres at dawn when he left the Labor Party Center on Hayarkon Street in Tel Aviv, where he had spent the night following the results of the local elections.

However, the ruling party also feels good, since the defeat feared by many did not occur. "Sympathy for the Likud and its candidates is still on a high level, and the Israeli public will not turn its back on the Likud in a hurry," stated Deputy Finance Minister Hayim Kaufman, who headed the Likud election headquarters together with Minister Yitzhaq Moda'i. "In my opinion, there will be an increase for the Likud in the general elections, or at least it will keep its strength. From the Likud's viewpoint, the timing of today's elections was the worst that could be imagined, and in today's reality, the results are a success."

MA'ARIV Compares Grenada With Lebanon Invasion

TA261215 Tel Aviv Ma'ariv in Hebrew 26 Oct 83 p 5

[Editorial: "The Marines in Grenada"]

[Text] At first glance, the invasion by U.S. forces and its allies of the tiny country of Grenada arouses no small degree of wonder. The demonstration of strength, based on the claim that this is a question of keeping a commitment given in a mutual defense pact, recalls — and perhaps it is no coincidence — the explanation the Warsaw Pact countries once gave for their invasion of Czechoslovakia.

It is therefore to be hoped that most Americans will not satisfy themselves with that first glance and will not be influenced only by the justified fears of military intervention in yet another area of the world, but will understand that the danger of no reaction to Soviet expansionism not far from the U.S. coast is graver than the danger lying in the reaction.

From the first reports of the landing on the island, it emerges that there were hundreds of Soviet and Cuban technicians in Grenada, which has a population of only about 110,000, and these technicians had turned the island into a base from which they could easily spread to other countries in the area.

The claim made in the United States yesterday by President Reagan's rivals, that the invasion of Grenada was sort of a "diversionary action" aimed at making the public forget the terrible disaster in Beirut and prove that the United States is capable of success in the military field, is not particularly convincing. We can apparently believe the remarks by the administration spokesman that the decision on the action preceded the catostrophe in Beirut: It is obvious that such a military action was preceded by scrupulous preparations and not prepared in 2 days.

What is also apparently correct is the claim that after the killing in Beirut, President Reagan could not permit himself another failure in another area of the world, since such a failure could put an end to all his hopes of being reelected next year.

Although this is a question of a military action far from our area, it undoubtedly has not a few implications for Israel. There are those who fear that after he has proved his firmness in the Caribbean, President Reagan will not hesitate to concede in Lebanon. Others believe the effect will be the opposite: The Soviets, who will realize that President Reagan is not afraid to take a risk, will understand that the cord should not be stretched too tight in Lebanon.

What is unquestionable is that in their action in Grenada, the Americans used the same claims with which Israel justified last year's invasion of Lebanon: The right to defend the citizens of their country and the right to take preventive action before the threat to the United States becomes real.

POST Defends U.S. Decision To Act in Grenada

TA270958 Jerusalem The Jerusalem Post in English 27 Oct 83 p 8

[Editorial: "U.S. Protects Its Backyard"]

[Text] The vary fact that the U.S. Marines and their Caribbean allies were still facing armed and apparently effective resistance a day after they had landed on Grenada is itself justification for their being there.

The resistance, after all, was not mounted by the Grenadian Army, but rather by Cuban forces who in Grenada go under the name of "workers."

The world, especially the Third World, has learnt full well by now what the presence of Cubans spells for any country. They are the shock-troops of Soviet expansionism. And yet a howl of hypocrisy has gone up in the wake of President Reagan's policing action in America's own backyard.

Perhaps the President's own disingenuousness stood him in bad stead before the court of world opinion. He was too free in his references to "freedom," too unconvincing in his emphasis on the need to defend "American lives" purportedly threatened on Grenada.

It would have been better had he dwelt on the real issue that prompted him to act — the security-subversion-strategic threat of another Cuba, albeit a mini-Cuba, in the Caribbean.

Of all the perfidious reactions in the Western camp, Britain's takes the biscuit. After seeking, and receiving, political and more tangible support from America for her escapade in the far-off Falklands, Mrs. Thatcher now has the ungrateful effrontery to preach to Washington. In the House of Commons her faithful cohorts join with left-wing Labourites to bay about Grenada's place under the British Crown.

What was the loyalty to "Queen and Commonwealth" of those who put an end to Prime Minister Bishop's "Peoples Revolutionary Government" on Grenada last week by killing him and several ministers in the process? (What, indeed, was Mr. Bishop's own devotion to the Commonwealth and its supposed ideals when he invited the Cubans and the Russians into his tiny country?)

Suddenly Britain, hitherto ignorant, indolent or impotent in the face of Soviet-Cuban infiltration, has remembered that Grenada is a part of the Commonwealth. Its response: to order a British warship to keep well away, while other nearby commonwealth countries, in concert with the United States, move to root out a pernicious growth in the Commonwealth and in the Caribbean.

France's comment was almost comical. Paris opposes such actions unless the invitation comes from the "lawful government" or is endorsed by the United Nations Security Council. What lawful government? The one that slew the last lot?

In a situation of mayhem and potential mischief such as developed in Grenada, international law has no pat answers — despite the formalistic dogmatism mouthed [illegible]elf-righteously by President Reagan's knee-jerk critics, at home and abroad.

UK, U.S. Foreign Affairs Officials To Visit

TA271026 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1000 GMT 27 Oct 83

[Text] On Monday, 31 October, the British under secretary of foreign affairs will come to Israel as the guest of his counterpart, Yehuda Ben-Me'ir. The visit will last 3 days, and Under Secretary Luce will meet with the prime minister, the defense minister and the foreign minister [as heard].

Political circles in Jerusalem say that the visit by the British under secretary is the beginning of a dialogue between Israel and Britain on a senior political level, and shows an improvement in the atmosphere between the two countries since the reshuffle that occurred in the British Foreign Office. Our correspondent Arye Golan points out that on Tuesday, 1 November, U.S. Under Secretary of State Lawrence Eagleburger is scheduled to arrive in Israel.

ALGERIA

Government Demands End to Grenada 'Intervention'

LD262009 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 26 Oct 83

[Text] The Foreign Ministry spokesman made a statement this evening in which he declared that the grave developments in the island of Grenada have caused deep concern in Algeria. The statement added that the Foreign Ministry secretary general received the U.S. ambassador in Algiers concerning this matter. In this connection, Algeria points out that nonintervention in the domestic affairs of states and strict respect of the rights of peoples to decide their own destiny are considered two principles which are not subject to violation and that violating them is rejected, especially when it takes the form of military intervention.

The Foreign Ministry spokesman added that Algeria considers this military operation to be very grave, especially as it makes a truly difficult situation in the area even more complex and escalates tension and confrontation at the expense of the course of dialogue and the search for a negotiated solution to improve international relations. The Foreign Ministry spokesman stated that an immediate and unconditional end to this intervention is an irrevocable demand and the international community should work for its realization immediately with the aim of enabling the people of Grenada to exercise their sovereign right to choose their own political and economic and social system and solve their own problems quite freely.

Bendjedid Meets With Iranian Official

GF261040 Tehran International Service in Arabic 0900 GMT 26 Oct 83

[Text] Brother Hoseyn Sheykh ol-Eslam, deputy foreign minister in charge of political affairs, met in Algiers yesterday with Algerian President Chedli Bendjedid. The meeting was attended by Algerian Foreign Minister Dr Ahmed Taleb Ibrahim. Issues of mutual interest as well as various situations were discussed during the meeting.

Fatah's Salah Khalaf Arrives in Algiers

LD262212 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 26 Oct 83

[Text] Abu Iyad [Salah Khalaf], Fatah Central Committee member, arrived in Algiers this afternoon as part of the tour of a delegation of the movement's Central Committee to a number of Arab countries. He was welcomed at Houari Boumedienne International Airport by Sliman Hoffman, head of the Foreign Relations Committee at the party, the official in charge of the liberation movements affairs in the party, (Sadiq Zawatin), and PLO representative in Algeria, Abu Hassan. In a statement soon after his arrival, Abu Iyad said that the Palestinian revolution is passing through crucial developments but despite this the Palestinian fighters will be steadfast under the PLO banner until the Palestinian people realize their national and international rights, however long the road or numerous the difficulties. In this connection Abu Iyad explained that he will hold talks with Algerian officials on the latest developments in the Palestinian issue.

LIBYA

Reportage on Reaction to Grenada Invasion

Tripoli Reports on 'Invasion'

NC260912 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 0600 GMT 26 Oct 83

[Text] The United States, Britain [as heard], and six allied states in the Caribbean staged an armed barbaric invasion of Grenada yesterday. At 0550 local time yesterday, an extensive landing of invaders took place at the international airport area, which is under construction on the island. Heavy clashes broke out between the invaders and the island's defenders who put up strong resistance because of their belief in their freedom and fate.

The head of the U.S. Administration, who is power hungry, announced the news of this barbaric invasion of Grenada without concealing the evil intentions and disgraceful actions to break up the revolution there against Grenada's will. Unequivocally he declared that the United States invaded Grenada with the participation of fascist governments in Antigua, Barbados, Dominica, Jamaica, Saint Lucia, and Saint Vincent. The United States, Britain, and the fascist governments carried out this barbaric operation of invading Grenada using an aircraft carrier and several warships that appeared at dawn along the coast of the island.

The U.S. Administration paved the way for this invasion, which is inconsistent with the simplest human rights and violates all international laws and charters, by a meeting including the heads of fascist states and governments of the so-called Caribbean union. These governments agreed without hesitation to join their forces with the U.S. invaders who landed in Grenada and directed their guns and incendiary shells against the struggling people of this small island. It was reported that the Armed Forces and the People's Militia in Grenada are still bravely resisting the U.S. invading forces which landed on the island at dawn yesterday. The radio [not further identified] reported that the resistance men shot down nine U.S. helicopters and killed hundreds of the invading forces.

JANA on 'Barbaric Invasion'

LD261656 Tripoli JANA in English 0857 GMT 26 Oct 83

["USA Invades Grenada" — JANA headline]

[Text] Washington, Muharram 19, Oct 26, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — USA, Britain, and six allies in the Caribbean have staged a barbaric armed invasion of Grenada yesterday morning. At 5:55 am local time large numbers of paratroopers landed in the international airport area and heavy exchange of fire took place between the invaders and those defending the island. The U.S. President who is power-mad, himself broke out the news of this barbaric invasion without

concealing the evil intentions and dirty actions against the freedom of Grenada and its revolution. He himself announced that the USA has invaded Grenada in collaboration with the fascist governments of Antigua, Barbados, Dominican, Jamaica, Saint Louis, and Saint Vincent [names as received].

The USA, Britain, and those Caribbean states invaded the island of Grenada using aircraft carrier and several warships appeared this morning off the coast of the island. This invasion which contradicts with the most basic human rights and violates all the international laws and norms, was planned at a meeting gathered the heads of states and governments of the fascist states of the so called Caribbean Association.

TASS news agency said that the people of Grenada, women and men, engaged in heavy fighting against the imperialist invasion forces in defence of the revolution. As a result of this barbaric invasion, the U.S. forces and the British special forces and their Caribbean allies forces committed a mass killing of the civilians in Grenada. Grenada's embassy in Moscow said that around 900 citizens have been killed up till now in this barbaric massacre, the worst committed by the Hitler of the modern age, Reagan. The embassy added that the people of Grenada have confronted the invaders with all means available and inflicted heavy losses on them reached 1200 soldiers up till yesterday afternoon. The head of the U.S. Administration admitted in a press conference held at the White House yesterday noon to the heavy losses inflicted on the invading forces, but he did not mention any figures.

Foreign Secretary Explains Stand

LD261125 Tripoli JANA in English 0956 GMT 26 Oct 83

[Text] Tripoli, Muharram 20, Oct 26, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — The People's Foreign Liaison Bureau also has summoned the ambassadors of the member countries in the Security Council to the Jamahiriyah last night when they were briefed by 'Abd al-'Ati al-'Ubaydi, the secretary of the People's Committee General [as received] for Foreign Liasion Bureau about the content of the historical telegraph message sent by the revolution leader to the chairperson and members of the Security Council, the secretary general of the UN General Assembly, to the current chairperson of the UN General Assembly and to the heads of state of world countries on the barbaric invasion of the U.S. and other six agent countries in the Caribbean to the island of Grenada.

'Abd al-'Ati al-'Ubaydi asked the ambassadors to urge their countries to take a strong attitude in the Security Council to deter the primitive barbaric invasion and to rescue the island of Grenada from this fascist U.S. invasion together with fascist anti-freedom countries in Latin America.

Al-'Ubaydi stated to the ambassadors the attitude of the Jamahiriyah which considers the primitive invasion inflicted on the island of Grenada as one of the most worrying cases in violating the sovereignty and the internal affairs of others. He pointed out to the ambassadors that the Jamahiriyah considers this primitive invasion as a flagrant violation to the international law and a serious case undermining the base of international relations. He said we have to stand strongly by the small people of Grenada which has been a victim of a reactionary imperialist fascist invasion. Al-'Ubaydi told the ambassadors about the call of the Jamahiriyah for an extraordinary meeting of the Security Council and the call for an immediate withdrawal for the invading forces from the free island of Grenada and to protect the people of Grenada against the evil spirit and Nazism in America.

Al-'Ubaydi asked the ambassadors to explain to their governments the dangerous situation arising from the invasion inflicted upon Grenada today and the stand of the Jamahiriyah on this invasion and the obligation to confront it strongly as long as it does not impose threats on the people of Grenada only but also a [words indistinct] that threaten the freedom of all the people who object to the American domination and confront its intransigence.

Demonstration Protests Grenada Invasion

NC261334 [Editorial Report] Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic at 1100 GMT on 26 October carries a relay of a demonstration staged in Tripoli to condemn "the despicable crime that has been committed by Reagan and his associates by their invasion of the island of Grenada." According to the announcer, "the U.S. crimes are unprecedented and countless. We have known them in Beirut, in Grenada, in many countries of the black continent, and in many countries of the world." At 1117 GMT the announcer says that the demonstrators are now outside the Belgian Embassy where there is a U.S. interests section. The announcer says that the demonstrators "are carrying placards that denounce Reagan and his policy," and "denounce Hitler -- the present day Hitler," who sends his fleets to intimidate the peoples. The announcer then says "we are confident that righteousness will sooner or later vanquish evil."

At 1132 GMT the announcer reads the following statement:

"In the name of God the compassionate and the merciful and in the name of the Great September: The masses of the Libyan popular congresses in the City of Tripoli [words indistinct] and denunciation of the barbaric U.S. armed [word indistinct] against the island of Grenada. These masses, who are committed to the thoughts of the leader and teacher, Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, and who wield authority, have wealth, and their own weapons, proclaim to the whole world:

"1. Their strong denunciation and condemnation of this new barbaric and Nazi invasion that is being led by the contemporary Hitler called Reagan.

"2. This armed invasion is considered a violation and slighting of all international covenants and practices. It also exposes international security and peace to a danger that threatens to destroy mankind.

"3. This armed invasion by a sinful big state is regarded as one of the most serious precedents and violations of the liberty of others. It endangers the security of all the small states and takes mankind back to the era of [words indistinct].

"4. We proclaim that we stand alongside the small number of people of Grenada in their present tribulation out of our adherence to the principle of defending freedom throughout the world and of protecting those who are persecuted for the sake of freedom. Finally, the masses of this demonstration call for a global alliance of all the peoples to confront ferocious imperialism and to put an end to these mean actions that are being taken by the leader of international terrorism, the United States, and to remove the evil and Nazi spirit of the United States that now constitutes a danger to the freedom of all the small peoples. Death to the criminals of Nazi power, and [word indistinct], victory, and immortality for the [word indistinct] people, who adhere to freedom. Now, a telegram from the masses of the Libyan Arab people is being handed to the Belgian ambassador for him to pass to the U.S. Government. Proceed forward, 1 September continues. The struggle continues. 1 September is immortal."

At 1132 the announcer concludes his statement and at 1134 GMT, the relay ends.

TUNISIA

President Mitterrand Arrives on Official Visit

NC2710O8 Paris AFP in English 0952 GMT 27 Oct 83

[Text] Tunis, Oct 27 (AFP) — President Francois Mitterrand of France arrived here today for a three-day official visit to Tunisia. The president, who was met at the airport by Tunisian President Habib Bourguiba, was accompanied by five of his ministers.

ETHIOPIA

Statement Condemns U.S. Military Action in Grenada

EA262145 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 1700 GMT 26 OCT 83

[Text] U.S. troops are engaged in fierce fighting with Grenada's military forces after having attacked Grenada yesterday. Reports from various news agencies indicate that the U.S. troops embarked on the offensive 4 days after the assassination of Maurice Bishop, prime minister of Grenada. Socialist Ethiopia has strongly condemned the act by regular U.S. and Caribbean troops because it constitutes direct intervention in the affairs of an independent state. Ethiopia disclosed that it shares a common stand of solidarity with the people and Government of Grenada and calls for an immediate withdrawal of the aggressive troops by the U.S. and other foreign governments.

Apart from this, Ethiopia has called on all peace- and freedom-loving nations to condemn the U.S. aggression on Grenada and to declare their solidarity with the people and Government of Grenada. A Foreign Ministry spokesman's statement regarding the invasion of Grenada said that it is an unquestionable fact that whatever excuses are presented as justification for intervention in the affairs of an independent country, the act clearly contravenes the basic principles of the UN Charter and international law. The spokesman said that the United States, instead of assuming it has the right to order the political path individual countries should follow, should in its capacity as a permanent member of the UN Security Council be a vanguard in respecting the principles of the charter and realize that any country, large or small, has the right to choose its path of development in a free atmosphere.

The Foreign Ministry spokesman pointed out that Grenada poses no threat to either neighboring countries or the United States and disclosed that the aggression against it was unprovoked and premeditated. It added that this indicates that this was a foul plot hatched by the United States and countries in the region with similar ideologies. The statement added that the act of naked aggression was a criminal act against a small country and added that this was indicative of the threat posed to the world and especially to countries in the region. It stated that the careless act by the United States leaves no doubt that it will increase the tension in the area. The spokesman disclosed that after the official declaration by the President of the United States claiming that it was he who had given the orders for the aggression on Grenada, any attempt to justify, as legal, the act of aggression by claiming that it was implemented after numerous calls by Caribbean countries was pathetic.

It stated that the international community should not be deceived by the U.S. President's [word indistinct] statement. The spokesman stated that allowing the United States to decide the path of development that the people of Grenada should follow would create a very dangerous situation for countries in the region and other small countries and added that the situation aims at encouraging intimidation of small countries that have refused to accept the supremacy of the U.S. Administration.

SOMALIA

National Movement Seeks Ties With DFSS

EA261657 (Clandestine) Radio Halgan in Somali to Somalia 1800 GMT 25 Oct 83

[Text] The Executive Committee of the Somali National Movement [SNM] ended a week-long meeting during which various topics connected with the armed and political struggle against the dictatorial regime of Barre were thoroughly discussed. During the meeting, the SNM Executive Committee heard various reports from the chairman of the SNM Executive Committee, Yusuf Ali Shaykh Madar; the vice chairman, Hasan Adan Wadadeed; and the movement's secretary general, Ahmed Ismail Duksi. The meeting held lengthy debates on the problems affecting the movement, how to counter these problems, and in turn how to improve the general administration of the SNM. The meeting also called [on the movement] to continue working with progressive forces and governments in general and with Somali opposition forces in particular, forces such as the Democratic Front for the Salvation of Somalia [DFSS], in accordance with the agreement the two organizations reached on 7 October 1982. As is known, this agreement paves the way for total unity of the two movements.

TANZANIA

Government Statement Condemns Grenada Events

EA262141 Dar es Salaam Domestic Service in Swahili 1700 GMT 26 Oct 83

[Text] Tanzania has condemned the U.S. military invasion of the island of Grenada, saying that the invasion is an open violation of international law and a gross violation of the UN Charter. A government statement issued by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs said that Tanzania received the news of the invasion with great shock. The statement said that the U.S. invasion is unjust and that it is interference in the internal affairs of a country that is a UN member. The statement also condemned the killing of Grenadan Prime Minister Mr Maurice Bishop, several ministers, and a large number of citizens of the island. The statement said that Tanzania was shocked by the brutal murder of Mr Bishop. The statement called on the United States to withdraw its forces from Grenada, adding that the citizens of Grenada have a right to decide their own destiny.

UGANDA

Further on Obote Remarks to FRG Parliamentarians

EA251433 Kampala Domestic Service in English 1900 GMT 24 Oct 83

[Excerpt] Moderate economic policies, maintenance of democracy, and observance of human rights are the foundations upon which Uganda is being rebuilt. This was emphasized by President Milton Obote when he received a delegation of three parliamentarians from the FRG who have been visiting Uganda at the

International Conference Center, Kampala. Dr Obote told the parliamentarians that to face the challenge of reconstruction and development, the government has adopted moderate economic policies to instill confidence in the people of Uganda to participate fully. As a result of these policies, he added, Ugandans have (?picked up) the challenge and production is beginning an upward trend. Dr Obote disclosed that Uganda's exports earnings have risen from $8-$30 million a month, as a result of widening the export base, he said.

He reiterated that despite the challenges and difficulties Uganda was facing, the democratic institutions such as a free press, trade unions, and Parliament flourish in the country. He assured the German parliamentarians that government would strive to make the multiparty system of government work in Uganda. He stressed that it is of no interest to government in making Uganda a one-party state.

The president briefed the parliamentarians on the serious security situation his government inherited and steps taken to bring it to normal in most areas of Uganda. He said even in Luwero and Mubende much work had been done to bring the situation to normal. Dr Obote dismissed as baseless, the opposition allegation that the 1980 elections were rigged. He challenged the opposition to prove their case in court. He expressed gratitude for the assistance given to Uganda by the FRG and described it as a symbol of friendship.

While in Uganda, the German parliamentarians visited Lake Katwe salt project, Queen Elizabeth National Park, Luwero, Luzira prison, (Mungo) and Rubaga hospitals, and also held discussions with the prime minister, government officials, and the leader of opposition. The leader of the delegation, Mr (Stadmeir), thanked the president for the hospitality and the opportunity accorded them to visit various parts of the country and meet a cross section of the people.

CAMEROON

Foreign Banks Urged To Promote Cameroonians

AB251605 Yaounde Domestic Service in English 1400 GMT 25 Oct 83

[Excerpt] The minister of finance, Mr Etienne Ntsama, has called on all foreign banks in the country to pay particular attention to the promotion of Cameroonian personnel at all levels of the hierarchy in their establishments. Inaugurating the Yaounde branch of Boston Bank Cameroon today, Mr Ntsama said that by indigenizing the post of director in all banks the Cameroon Government wanted to master the principal levers of the economy. The minister of finance also said the banking reform of 1973 which provides for the Cameroonization of the post of director in all foreign banks is aimed at guaranteeing the fundamental options and the authentic development of Cameroon's economy. Mr Ntsama called on the banks to set up training programs so as to ensure the eventual transfer of banking knowledge and technology to Cameroonians.

CHAD

AFP Reports Rumors in Ndjamena on Reconciliation

AB251915 Paris AFP in French 1813 GMT 25 Oct 83

[Text] Ndjamena, 25 Oct (AFP) — "Rumors" circulating in Ndjamena have led to an assertion by the Chadian national radio station that the government is taking concrete steps to initiate national reconciliation. Questioned by AFP, Chadian Information Minister Soumaila Mahamat asserted that he agreed with Radio Chad's analysis of the "rumors in Ndjamena of preparations for national reconciliation," adding, however, that this was only an assertion by the press. Radio Chad also stated that the government's silence on these rumors can be explained by the fear that drawing too much attention to them might split Chadian opinion and undermine the problem of Libya's occupation of the northern part of the country.

A good source in Ndjamena also stated that Major Ahmed Ould Minnih, the Mauritanian minister of foreign affairs, visited the Chadian capital on Monday and delivered a message to President Hissein Habre from the Mauritanian head of state. In addition, a Gabonese envoy, whose identity has not been divulged, was expected in Ndjamena today. According to Mr Soumaila, most missions coming to or leaving Ndjamena are aimed at national reconciliation.

It will be recalled that President Hissein Habre visited Zaire on Saturday and held discussions with Zairian President Field Marshal Mobutu Sese Seko.

Bardai Radio Claims Areas Seized, 66 FAN Killed

AB251915 (Clandestine) Bardai Chadian National Radio in French 1800 GMT 25 Oct 83

[Text] According to reports reaching us from our permanent correspondent, National Liberation Army [ANL] commando units have just carried out spectacular operations successfully seizing the control of Yamboudou, Koldaga, Bekourou, (?Wal Wal), and Djerbo in Logone-Oriental and Moyen-Chari. FAN reinforcements dispatched from Doba have fallen in an ambush. There were 66 dead among the enemy. Also, the revolutionary forces have successfully destroyed the bridge between Beboye and Gorro. Their greatest (?action) was the control of the subprefecture of Baibokoun on 13 October 1983, 9 days after the execution of four persons announced in our previous casts.

Capture of Town Reported

AB261855 (Clandestine) Bardai Chadian National Radio in French 1800 GMT 26 Oct 83

[Text] After the fall of Baibokoum, the subprefecture of Moissala has fallen to the Transitional National Union Government revolutionary forces. In fact, following a siege of several days and the destruction of a bridge linking Koura and Moissala, the antinational forces in that town have simply rallied the National Liberation Army commando units. Another major event is the defection of three Chadian pilots with a DC-4 aircraft full of arms and ammunition which they hijacked to Brazzaville. They are the commanding pilot, Captain Mahamat, alias Jackvy Jackson, a military adviser in the FAN presidency; Sodekoura Rossi, navigator; adjutant Natana Nabemgar, a pilot; and a French (?copilot). Through their highly patriotic gesture, the Chadian pilots and their French colleague wanted to protest the extortions carried out by Hissein Habre's fascist and bloody clique against the civilian population.

CONGO

Sassou-Nguesso Greets PCF's Marchais on Arrival

AB251610 Brazzaville Domestic Service in French 1230 GMT 25 Oct 83

[Text] Georges Marchais, secretary general of the French Communist Party [PCF], arrived in Brazzaville this morning on a visit of friendship and cooperation that demonstrates the very good relations existing between the PCF and the Congolese Labor Party [PCT]. Georges Marchais was received on arrival by Comrade Denis Sassou-Nguesso, chairman of the Central Committee of the PCT, who thus emphasized the relations between both parties [words indistinct]. In fact, the secretary general of the PCF was accorded a reception generally reserved for heads of state. This was because Comrade Denis Sassou-Nguesso was anxious to demonstrate his support for the struggle being waged by the people under the leadership of communist parties and his support for the struggle being waged by the leftist forces in France and particularly the PCF in the interest of social progress — a difficult struggle against the rightist forces that will enable the leftists to achieve both their political and economic objectives.

The fine misty rain that fell on Brazzaville this morning is of a nature to make the relations of cooperation and the exchanges of experience between the two parties more fruitful. The secretary general of the PCF and Comrade Denis Sassou-Nguesso will hold discussions this afternoon. Upon arrival the secretary general of

the PCF stressed the importance of the relations between both parties [words indistinct].

[Begin recording] [Marchais] First of all, this visit falls within the framework of the good relations existing between the PCT and PCF. I came here 3 years ago and I promised to return. Well, I have now come back and I am here this time at the official invitation of the PCT. Of course, we will have discussions of importance to the two parties. We will examine many problems facing Africa as well as the problems of French-Congolese cooperation. This visit, which follows the one we have made to Angola and precedes the one we will make to Benin, falls within the framework of the PCF's strong desire to bring its solidarity to all the African peoples struggling against neocolonialism and for progress and the introduction of a development policy [words indistinct].

[Unidentified correspondent] Could you give us your opinion of the recent events in Beirut, and what do you think of the presence of French troops in Lebanon?

[Marchais] At the moment we do not have sufficient information to enable us to give our opinion of what is happening in Lebanon because we have (?been away from home). I must say that we bow our heads in memory of the victims and that what has just happened can only encourage us in our determination to help find a solution to the problems of Lebanon [words indistinct]. [end recording]

Banquet Hosted

AB261910 Paris AFP in French 1555 GMT 26 Oct 83

[Text] Brazzaville, 26 Oct (AFP) — French Communist Party (PCF) Secretary General Georges Marchais vehemently criticized yesterday in Brazzaville the "pressure" being exerted on Africa by "American imperialism," especially through "multinational companies." Speaking at a banquet (?held in his honor by) Congolese President Denis Sassou-Nguesso, Mr Marchais stressed that these companies make "immense profits" to the detriment of the "needs of the people." Since 1960, he recalled, the revenues of a great number of African states have declined and since then these states have been obliged to borrow capital "solely" to service their debts despite their enormous natural resources. Mr Marchais particularly criticized "the large sums of money devotedto the arms race, instead of using them for the development of the Third World." It is necessary, he asserted, to drive from Africa the weight of the colonial heritage.

For his part, President Sassou-Nguesso expressed concern over the "profound degradation of the international situation," and appealed to all "progressive forces to put their resources together in order to avoid nuclear war," adding that Mr Marchais' visit to the Congo is "comforting" and the "expression" of "international solidarity" among "progressive" movements. Mr Sassou-Nguesso made a sad review of the situation in Africa, especially in Angola, Namibia, Western Sahara, and Chad. Concerning the Chadian conflict, the Congolese president expressed the view that it was effectively "internationalized." Chadian territory, he added, has been divided into pieces and the inhabitants are subjected to "misery" and "civil war."

Mr Marchais, who arrived in Brazzaville on Tuesday, left today for Pointe Noire, the country's economic capital, where he will attend an important Congolese workers meeting this afternoon. The PCF secretary general's visit ends tomorrow evening with the issuing of a joint communique. From the Congo, Mr Marchais, who visited Angola 20-24 October, will visit Benin.

GABON

Government Imposes Censorship on News on France

AB250605 Paris AFP in English 0359 GMT 25 Oct 83

[Text] Libreville, Oct 25 (AFP) — The Gabonese authorities have banned the local media from reporting any news from or about France, in protest at the publicity given in France to a critical book about Gabon. The book, by French journalist Pierre Pean, deals with this country and its relations with France since independence in 1961. The leadership here has taken umbrage at what it considers to be the "malevolence" of the book towards Gabon.

The censorship has not yet been officially announced, but an authoritative source confirmed to AFP Monday night that a ban was in force until further notice. Gabon was sovereign in the choice of what news to publish, just as France was, the source commented. The first effect of the ban was that the national radio and TV networks, as well as Africa No 1, the most powerful international radio station on the continent, made absolutely no mention yesterday of the attack on French troops in Lebanon, while giving extensive coverage to the one against American Marines.

GHANA

Japanese Firm To Supply Radio Transmitters

AB262125 Accra Domestic Service in English 2000 GMT 26 Oct 83

[Text] The Ghana Broadcasting Corporation [GBC] today signed a $3.4 million contract with a Japanese firm, NEC Corporation, for the supply of three 50-kilowatt radio transmitters to replace the 10-kilowatt transmitters now in use. Under the terms of the contract, the firm will manufacture, ship, install, and commission the equipment within 14 months. At the signing ceremony in Accra, the secretary for information, Miss Joyce Aryee, expressed the hope that the work would be completed on schedule. The general manager of the Africa division of the NEC Corporation, (Kindji Maikawa), assured the secretary of the early completion of the contract. He said once completed, Ghana will enjoy both better domestic and international broadcasting and telephone facilities.

The acting director general of the GBC, Kwame Karikari, said as part of the contract, NEC Corporation would, apart from supplying spare parts for 2 years, also help train GBC technicians and supervise the installation of the equipment. He said presently the GBC has received tenders from some companies abroad for the rehabilitation of the television studio for GBC television to go color. Miss Aryee and Mr Karikari signed for the GBC while Messrs (Maikawa) and (Yawamuzu), an engineer resident, signed for NEC Corporation.

LIBERIA

Foreign Minister on U.S. Invasion of Grenada

AB270900 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 0655 GMT 27 Oct 83

[Text] While criticism mounts over American invasion of the Caribbean island of Grenada, Liberia's Foreign Minister T. Ernest Eastman has said he does not consider America's action as an invasion. Speaking to the press yesterday upon arrival from Switzerland, Minister Eastman said the situation could only be put into perspective because America does not have diplomatic or consular representation in Grenada. Asked further to describe America's position if it was not an invasion, Mr Eastman would not comment but only said he was concentrating on the donors' conference in Switzerland. For his part, the Soviet ambassador to Liberia, Anatoliy Ulanov, said every country must be responsible to decide its own political future. He said it was not necessary to bring democracy by guns in the country. When contacted by the press, the U.S. ambassador to Liberia, William Swing, would not comment.

Doe Hosts Reception for Donor Delegates

AB262020 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 0655 GMT 26 Oct 83

[Text] Head of state Commander in Chief Doe, who is currently in Berne, Switzerland, last night hosted a reception in honor of delegates attending the donors conference at the (?Belleville) Hotel in Berne. Yesterday evening, the head of state held discussions with Swiss federal president at the Federal Palace. The nature of the 1-hour closed door talks was not revealed, but sources said the two leaders discussed bilateral issues. Dr Doe used the occasion to sympathize with the president for the recent death of the Swiss vice president.

Doe Returns From Conference

AB262045 Monrovia Domestic Service in English 1900 GMT 26 Oct 83

[Text] The Liberian leader, Commander in Chief Dr Samuel Kanyon Doe, and party today returned to the capital. The head of state returned from a visit to Bern, Switzerland, where he attended a donor's conference sponsored by the United Nations Development Program. Chairman Doe told reporters at the Sprigg Payne Airfield that Finance Minister Alvin Jones and Planning Minister Emmanuel Gardiner participated in the donor's conference in Switzerland. Dr Doe also said that the two ministers remained in Switzerland to hold further discussions with representatives of the 35 countries involved in the conference. The Liberian leader says the country will gain maximum benefits from the donor's conference. He said he will give a detailed account of the conference in an address in December.

Doe Receives 'Special Message' From Stevens

AB262150 Monrovia Domestic Service in English 2100 GMT 26 Oct 83

[Text] A high-powered Sierra Leonian delegation has delivered a special message to the Liberian leader, Commander in Chief Dr Samuel K. Doe, from President Siaka Stevens. A Liberian news agency report quoting the press secretary to the vice head of state, Mr Akumey, says the five-man delegation arrived in Monrovia today with the message. The Sierra Leonian delegation is led by one of the country's vice presidents, A.B. Kamara [name and title as heard]. Although the contents of the message were not revealed, observers believe they centered around bilateral relations between the two countries.

NIGERIA

ANC Envoy on Education in South Africa

AB270803 Lagos NAN in English 0735 GMT 27 Oct 83

[Text] Lagos Oct 26 (NAN) — The out-going chief representative of the African National Congress (ANC) in Nigeria, Mark Shope, today in Lagos said that the struggle by black South Africans for equal educational opportunities was aimed at producing a new educated black man. Mr Shope, who was addressing members of the National Committee Against Apartheid (NACAP), stressed that education in South Africa should teach the youths to love their people and their culture, to honor human brotherhood, liberty, and peace. The ANC leader said that the existing educational policy of the South African Government was designed to perpetuate the domination of blacks by the white South Africans.

Responding, the chairman of the committee, Prof Chimere Ikoku, reassured the ANC of the continued support of the committee in the struggle for the liberation of the black people of South Africa. Prof Ikoku described Mr Shope as a brilliant and hard working man, and advised the new ANC chief representative, Victor Matlu, to continue the good works of his predecessor.

UPPER VOLTA

Finance Minister Leaves for Meetings in Niamey

AB261335 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 1300 GMT 26 Oct 83

[Text] Comrade Damo Justin Barro, the minister of finance, left Ouagadougou late yesterday afternoon for Niamey, Niger. InNiamey Comrade Barro will participate in the ministerial meeting of the West African Economic Community and the West African Monetary Union within the framework of preliminary sessions of the summit of member heads of state of these institutions, scheduled to take place in Niger's capital from 29 to 31 October.

ANGOLA

Dos Santos Receives Message From Egypt's Mubarak

MB260935 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0500 GMT 26 Oct 83

[Text] Comrade President Jose Eduardo dos Santos received a message from Egyptian President Husni Mubarak in Luanda yesterday. The message, which deals with matters of bilateral interest, was delivered to the Angolan head of state by the ambassador of the Arab Republic of Egypt to Angola.

Communique Issued on PCF's Marchais Visit

MB260932 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0500 GMT 26 Oct 83

[Text] Georges Marchais, secretary general of the French Communist Party [PCF], ended a 5-day working visit to our country yesterday. The highlight of the visit by Georges Marchais and his delegation was marked by talks with a delegation of the MPLA-Labor Party led by Comrade President Jose Eduardo dos Santos. These talks ended with a joint communique which was also published in Luanda soon before the departure of Georges Marchais for the Republic of the Congo. The communique stresses the economic and social reforms in progress in Angola, the realization of which under the difficult conditions we are experiencing indicates the desire of the Angolan people to strengthen the revolutionary gains and to move toward the socialist path.

The joint communique also stresses the consequences of the armed aggressions carried out against Angola by the South African Army, which occupies the southern part of Angola's territory with the aim of weakening the important efforts made by the Angolan people to overcome the economic, social, and human problems inherited from colonialism. In their joint communique the delegations of the PCF and the MPLA-Labor Party condemned the linkage policy, which is designed to make the independence of Namibia conditional upon the withdrawal of the Cuban internationalists from Angola. The two delegations stated that this question concerns the Governments of Angola and Cuba.

The two delegations commended the strengthening of French aid for the reconstruction of the Angolan economy and supported the cooperation agreement signed between the two parties as an instrument to strengthen their old solidarity links. The two parties also dealt with the situation in southern Africa and expressed their unconditional support for the UN decisions on Namibia and the desire that France, (?although) a member of the Contact Group, contribute toward the implementation of UN Resolution 435.

The two delegations condemned the apartheid regime, which, by challenging the international community and disregarding the most elementary rights of man, subjects thousands of black children, women, and old people to poor living conditions in an attempt to perpetuate its interests regarding the resources of the countries it illegally occupies. The secretary general of the PCF stressed in a press conference held soon before his departure the need to put an end to the aggressive South African policy, which, thanks to the American Administration, carries out armed aggression against the countries of southern Africa.

Luanda Says Reagan UN Speech 'Distortion'

MB261557 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0452 GMT 26 Oct 83

[Station commentary: "President Reagan Inverts the Terms"]

[Text] The speech made by U.S. President Ronald Reagan at the 38th session of the UN General Assembly has disturbed the international community because of the incredible distortion of facts regarding all the problems he dealt with. An example of this is the passage in his speech about U.S. policy in southern Africa. The President gave assurances that the U.S. Government is seeking to reduce the amount of force used in that region by opting for the promotion of peaceful negotiations and that it would support the idea that the superpowers must not interfere in Third World conflicts. These are bombastic phrases far from the realities, for we all know that as a result of the U.S. aggressive activity, tensions and regional conflicts have increased in all parts of the world: in Europe, Asia, Africa, the Middle East and Central America. It was the United States that transformed southern Africa into one of the most dangerous troubled areas where — with its support and connivance — the rasict regime is waging an undeclared war against the frontline states.

Meanwhile, President Reagan spoke at the United Nations about the use of force and efforts to promote negotiations, while that organization has been accusing the U.S. Administration of supporting the apartheid regime, violating the embargo on the supply of arms to the South African racists, and contributing to South Africa's aggression against the People's Republic of Angola. Thus, in its Resolution 36/6 of 1976, the 31st session of the UN General Assembly expressed its concern over the violations of the embargo on the supply of war materiel to South Africa by its traditional allies, namely, the United States. It also expressed deep regret that the United States has been contributing to the militarization of South Africa. The United Nations appealed to the U.S. Government and its NATO allies to adopt a stand which would enable the Security Council to apply efficient measures to resolve the problems of that region. Despite all this, neither the U.S. Government in power then nor the present one has reacted to the UN appeal, and it continues to supply arms to the anachronistic Pretoria regime. Today, while the U.S. President is speaking out against the use of force, it is his administration that is encouraging South Africa to commit acts of violence against the People's Republic of Angola.

The resolution of the 18th extraordinary session of the UN General Assembly expressed concern that the Security Council could not — in view of the U.S. veto — honor its obligations before the large-scale armed invasion on 31 August 1981 carried out by the apartheid terrorist regime against the People's Republic of Angola. When he talks about the need to find room for dialogue, President Reagan is forcing a door that has been open, for that requirement has long been outlined in UN Resolution 435, which calls for a negotiated settlement of the Namibian

problem. The international community as a whole has spoken in favor of such a solution, while the United States and its Western allies, which are part of the ousted Contact Group, are doing their best to prevent dialogue on the granting of independence to Namibia and to compromise the peaceful solution to that problem. The UN General Assembly has also strongly exposed the maneuvers carried out by that Western group with the intention of undermining the international consensus, as expressed in UN Resolution 435, and compromising the gains of the oppressed people of Namibia.

It is naive to think that when President Reagan spoke at the United Nations he ignored these facts. His objectives were and are nothing but the achievement of imperial ambitions and a guarantee of a dominant position for the United States in the world. Washington has shown contempt for the interests and opinions of other states and peoples, which makes it believe that the forces of arms will be able to overcome the determination of the peoples who struggle against imperialism for freedom, independence, and national sovereignty.

FAPLA Forces Kill 17 UNITA Members in Benguela

MB270650 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0500 GMT 27 Oct 83

[Text] Another 17 UNITA counterrevolutionaries have been killed in Benguela Province in the course of operations carried out last week by our defense and security forces in that province. The 6 women and 10 children held by the bandits in the area of Lobito municipality were freed during the operations, and 16 head of cattle stolen by the counterrevolutionaries from the people were recovered by the People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola [FAPLA]. Unable to achieve any victories against the Angolan Armed Forces, UNITA is carrying out criminal acts against defenseless people. In Huambo Province where UNITA has been suffering heavy defeats inflicted by FAPLA, 18 peasants were murdered and another 12 wounded during a treacherous attack on the residents of Catabola. During the attack the enemy pillaged various houses and grabbed a number of head of cattle before taking flight. The local residents immediately set out in hot pursuit to capture the bandits.

BOTSWANA

Opposition Accuses BDP of Deprivation of Rights

MB261712 Gaborone Domestic Service in English 1125 GMT 26 Oct 83

[Text] The opposition Botswana People's Party has pledged that when elected into power, it will ensure that every Batswana lives under what they call acceptable conditions. According to reports carried by the BOTSWANA PRESS AGENCY yesterday, the pledge was given by the leader of the party, Dr (Maripe), in Francistown this weekend. Dr (Maripe) claimed that the current development of the country under the ruling Botswana Democratic Party [BDP] deprived some Batswana of their rights. He said the future of the country depends on the survival of the youth and would remain grave if the youth were going to be exposed and brought up under the dangerous environment of the BDP rule. Dr (Maripe) stated that if the BDP government did not try to reduce the gap between the rich and the poor, it would be heading for what he termed a bloody and untimely revolution. He said time would come when all those standard seven and junior certificate dropouts would ask themselves why they did not get a firm education like other children.

MADAGASCAR

Ratsiraka Condemns U.S. Military Action in Grenada

MB261457 Antananarivo Domestic Service in French 1030 GMT 26 Oct 83

[Excerpt] Madagascar condemns the U.S. military intervention in Grenada in the Caribbean region. President Didier Ratsiraka has sent a telegram on this matter to the UN secretary general, Mr Javier Perez de Cuellar. The telegram reads as follows:

Your Excellency: It is with disgust that we have learned of the overthrow and assassination of our comrade, Prime Minister Bishop of Grenada. We, therefore, vigorously condemn the murder on the basis of principles which we have always adopted, according to which dialogue and the demoractic approach are the only viable and tenable means for settling contradictions and internal and external conflicts, and not political murder. In the same vein, we also vigorously condemn the military intervention by the United States of America and some Caribbean states on the basis of principles recognized by the international community regarding noninterference in the internal affairs of other states.

In fact, if military intervention were to become acceptable behavior, no small independent country would ever be able to establish a system of its own choice or exercise its inalienable right to self-determination. You must urgently exert your moral authority by putting pressure on the international community, particularly the superpowers, to avoid a repetition of such contemptable acts and by calling for the withdrawal of foreign intervention forces from Grenada. Please accept, Your Excellency, the assurance of my highest consideration. It is signed: Didier Ratsiraka, president of the Democratic Republic of Madagascar.

Copies of this telegram have been sent to the chairman of the Nonaligned Movement, Mrs Indira Gandhi; the chairman of the OAU, Mr Mengistu Haile Mariam; and the acting secretary general of the OAU, Mr Peter Onu.

Trial of 45 Plotters Adjourned to 3 November

MB262020 Antananarivo Domestic Service in French 1030 GMT 25 Oct 83

[Text] The case of 45 persons who were to be tried today in the ordinary criminal court in Antananarivo has been adjourned until 3 November at 0800. They have been charged with plotting to carry out violent acts, forming a commando group, taking part in weapons deals, and deviating [word indistinct] goods. The adjournment was made at the request of the Ministry of Public Prosecution, which was represented by (Rakoutou Ambou) and (Razakou Mayeri), and it was accepted by presiding Judge (Ramanayende Francois). The reason for the adjournment, that

one of the principals accused in the case, (Radiocyre Aime Eric), fled to France in 1981. His appearance in the trial has been judged indispensable by the Ministry of Public Prosecution as well as by the court's presiding judge. An international warrant of arrest has already been ordered against him, the Ministry of Public Prosecution said, and a request for his extradition has also been submitted to French authorities.

The defense expressed skepticism at the chances of arresting the runaway accused. It expressed the hope that the French police would arrest him and that the French authorities would agree to extradite him. France and Madagascar are linked by the cooperation agreement of 4 June 1973. French police are already looking for (Radiocyre Eric).

Let us hope that they will get him and let us wait until 3 November. As for the charges, the Ministry of Public Prosecution stressed that there are many. They will be made known in the court at the moment thought proper by the judges. Presiding Judge (Ramanayende) accepted the adjournment request made by the Ministry of Public Prosecution. He also stressed that the [words indistinct] will take place on 3 November in order to preserve their independence and security. We noted that most of the witnesses, numbering about 100, were present at this morning's session.

MOZAMBIQUE

Lesotho Premier Arrives in Maputo, To Meet Machel

MB261325 Maputo in English to Southern Africa 1100 GMT 26 Oct 83

[Text] The prime minister of Lesotho, Dr Leabua Jonathan, arrived in Maputo this morning for a private visit. He is accompanied by Lesotho's foreign minister, Evaristus Sekhmnyana, and he was received by Mozambique's foreign minister, Joaquim Chissano, at Maputo's International Airport. During his visit to Mozambique, Dr Leabua is expected to hold talks with President Samora Machel.

Cuban Deputy Trade Minister in Maputo for Talks

MB261616 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1030 GMT 26 Oct 83

[Text] Enrique Silvestre, deputy minister of foreign trade of the Republic of Cuba, who has been in Maputo since yesterday, will hold talks with the Mozambique authorities on foreign trade today. The talks will assess the cooperation between the two countries in the field of foreign trade, particularly the formation of Mozambique cadres and prospects for cooperation next year. The Cuban deputy minister of foreign trade ends his mission to Mozambique today.

SOUTH AFRICA

Anglican Press Conference Alleges SADF Atrocities

SADF Posed as SWAPO

MB261926 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1906 GMT 26 Oct 83

[Text] Johannesburg, Oct 24, SAPA — The SADF [South African Defense Force] admitted to a group of Anglican churchmen on a recent visit to SWA [South-West Africa] Namibia that its forces had on occasion posed as SWAPO guerrillas and that this had led to beatings and even killings of civilians, it was claimed today. Mr Terry Waite, an assistant to the archbishop of Canterbury, told a press conference in Johannesburg that a selection of specific reports of allegations had been put to the SADF, among them accusations that soldiers and members of the Koevoet Special Police Unit dressed in SWAPO uniform had 'intimidated' civilians on house calls. "This was admitted by the SADF and we were told: In guerrilla warfare this type of activitiy occurs," said Mr Waite. "This activity resulted in beatings and even killings," Mr Waite said.

"The South African officers acknowledged that some atrocities on its part had taken place and they produced a list of convictions during the past twelve months," said Mr Waite, who was part [of] the group which visited the territory between October 14 and October 24. "We were told by the SADF that when a soldier is caught committing a crime, the case is investigated, but because local people were reluctant to provide information, it was often difficult to secure a conviction," Mr Waite added.

Another member of the group, Reverend Charles Cesaretti of the Episcopal Church of the United States, said the group was told that these incidents occurred during the night curfew in northern SWA/Namibia, when civilians were faced with the dilemma of who was at the door. "The acts of intimidation have happened once the door is opened, and we were told of cases where South African forces were dressed in SWAPO uniforms," Mr Cesaretti said. "In these cases people could not distinguish between the South Africans and SWAPO. We were also told that this manoeuvre was reflected on both sides," Mr Waite added.

The group of six, which includes two bishops, said they found the local population opposed the presence of South African forces in the territory. It alleged harassment of church activities, including cases where South African soldiers had entered churches during services and placed their weapons on the altars. "One or two senior officers said they were very concerned about these reports and that they would be investigated," Mr Waite said.

Mr Waite claimed that the majority of the people supported SWAPO. "If claims by South African forces that it is building confidence for independence are true, then they have a very strange way of going about it," he said. "They [as received] see it as an aggressive force which divides people and in some cases causing distress and harassment," said Mr Waite.

The group, which intends to issue a report on its visit, said meetings with a broad cross-section of the community revealed that there was "absolute opposition to the ethnic government." "Very few people we met agreed with it and many regard it as an imposition of the Republic of South Africa." It rejected claims by South Africa that SWAPO was a Marxist organization. It described many of its men as "our sons — Christian men fighting for the liberation and independence of Namibia."

The Anglicans called for positive action to speed up the independence process and it [as received] would present recommendations in part of its report on how this might be done. The war created "fear, anxiety and uncertainty" among all the communities. Many whites in the country were secure in the war situation, because they felt their interests were being protected, the Anglicans said. Substantial number of whites were troubled in their conscience by the troubles, but there was a great confusion of self-interest," said Mr Waite.

The church leaders from Britain, the United States, Japan and South Africa also met representatives of the United Nations Contact Group — Britain, France, West Germany, United States and Canada — to discuss progress in the independence negotiations.

Allegations To Be Investigated

MB261936 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1908 GMT 26 Oct 83

[Text] Johannesburg, Oct 26, SAPA — A spokesman for the SA Police Division of Public Relations, Colonel J. Venter, when asked to comment on the allegations made today at a news conference in Johannesburg by Mr Terry Waite, an assistant to the archbishop of Canterbury who instigated an investigation by the Anglican Church into conditions in SWA Namibia, said:

"The police will not condone any atrocity (wandaad) by any unit or members of a unit of the police. Should there be allegations of atrocities by members of the SA police these will be thoroughly investigated and justice will be permitted to take its course," he said.

In his comment, Colonel Leon Mellet, a spokesman for the Ministry of Law and Order, said recent court cases in Rundu which had involved members of the police force underlined what Col Venter had said.

SWATF Statement on Charges

MB261946 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1923 GMT 26 Oct 83

[Text] Windhoek, Oct 26, SAPA — Acts of misconduct by the military against civilians in SWA/Namibia were contrary to discipline and standing orders issued at all levels, the SWA Territory Force [SWATF] said in a statement in Windhoek tonight. Reports of maltreatment by defence force members were promptly investigated and if evidence existed, soldiers were brought to trial before either military or civilian courts.

The SWATF was responding to allegations made by the special adviser on foreign affairs to the archbishop of Canterbury, Mr Terry Waite, concerning atrocities allegedly committed by the military against civilians in SWA/Namibia. Mr Waite addressed a news conference in Johannesburg after leaving Windhoek yesterday, at the conclusion of a 12-day visit to the territory by a delegation of high-ranking Anglican clergy. The church dignatories visited SWA/Namibia at the instruction of the archbishop of Canterbury, Dr Robert Runcie, to compile a report on the situation facing the church and its congregations in the territory.

"In a well-orchestrated propaganda campaign against the security forces, the security forces are continually being accused of committing atrocities," the SWATF said in document handed over to the Anglican visitors. Copies of the document were released to the media tonight. "SWAPO's atrocities, on the other hand, are not given the same prominance and an incorrect picture of the situation is presented," the SWATF document stated.

The document listed reported SWAPO atrocities committed against civilians from 1979 to September this year as well as SADF and SWATF soldiers who had been brought to trial and convicted of various offences, including murder and rape. According to the SWATF document, 303 civilians had died in the period in landmine blasts caused by SWAPO insurgents, while 366 civilians had been killed by SWAPO terrorists. A total of 1,341 civilians had been abducted by SWAPO while 513 people had sustained injuries in SWAPO-laid landmine blasts. "Very little prominence has been given to these acts by the media and other organizations," the SWATF said. "It is accepted that in a war situation the local population are scared of both sides and that formal complaints regarding atrocities will not be forthcoming." Nevertheless, accusations against the security forces were usually vague, "based on hearsay evidence and normally appear in the media as part of a propaganda campaign before, if at all, being reported as a formal complaint to the security forces."

To allay fears in civilians, the defence force had set up liaison committees in consultation with civilian authorities in the northern areas of Owanbo and Kavango "so that complaints against security force members may be made without fear of reprisals." The SWATF said 18 members of the defence force had been convicted in criminal trials from 1982 to February this year which proved that the military viewed transgressions by soldiers against civilians in a serious light. The sentences varied from 20 years imprisonment and corporal punishment to fines of between 1,000 and 500 rand. The offences included murder, attempted murder, culpable homicide, rape, assault and arson. The SWATF said it "can only assume that his (Mr Waites) statement to the media rests upon a misunderstanding."

The SWATF had provided the Anglican mission with information relating to a court case which ended in Windhoek in February this year in which evidence was led concerning "so-called pseudo-operations. This information was mentioned to delegates to illustrate that this type of action is not condoned by the SWATF." The two men, convicted of murder, were sentenced to 15 years and five years, the SWATF said.

[Johannesburg SAPA in English at 1909 GMT on 26 October carries the following disclaimer: "Subs: We are issuing a series of three related stories on the Anglican news conference in Johannesburg today. There is the main news conference story, comment from the SAP and comment from the SWA territory force — three pieces in all. We would like to point out that the main story is issued only with the understanding that the comment must also be used in full and in conjunction with it by subscribers in terms of both the police act and the defence act.

"SAPA (chief sub pp editor)"]

Ciskei Leader Dismisses U.S. Travel Warning
MB261644 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1601 GMT 26 Oct 83

[Text] Bisho (Ciskei), Oct 26, SAPA — President Lennox Sebe today dismissed as "unfounded and emotional gossip," a U.S. warning to its citizens that it was dangerous to visit Ciskei. Ciskei was a sovereign state and could "not entertain unfounded and emotional gossip discrediting it," President Sebe said in a statement. He challenged the U.S. State Department to prove its statement. "On the other hand, we can prove with pictures that the grandsons of the United States — the South African Allied Workers Union [SAAWU] — burned houses of people in Mdantsane," the president said. President Sebe did not elaborate on his statement about SAAWU, which is banned in Ciskei. "Law and order must prevail and nobody welcomes the ill-treatment of people. You must allow (the people) the benefit of the doubt," he said.

Foreign Minister on New Australian Guidelines
MB270656 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 27 Oct 83

[Text] The minister of foreign affairs and information, Mr Pik Botha, says he hopes members of the ANC and SWAPO go to Australia in large numbers after the announcement by the Australian Government that these organizations will be allowed to open information offices in Australia. Mr Botha was reacting to an announcement by the Australian minister of foreign affairs, Mr Bill Hayden, setting out new guidelines for sports links between South Africa and Australia. Mr Botha said it was clear that Mr Hayden had no experience of the activities and objectives of the ANC and SWAPO. The new guidelines announced by Mr Hayden prohibit amateur sportsmen and -women from participating in Australia even if they are not members of teams.

SWAZILAND

Prime Minister Addresses Press on Elections
MB261718 Mbabane Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 26 Oct 83

[Text] The prime minister, Prince Bhekimpi, has appealed for peace and cooperation during the day of the country's general elections, which fall this Friday, 28 October. Addressing a press conference at his office this afternoon, the prime minister said Friday, the 28th, has been made a holiday for all Swazi nationals to be free to go their polling stations to choose men of their own choice to lead this nation. He said on Friday, the 28th, there will be no beer selling in Swaziland before and during the elections and said beer selling places will be opened after the whole work is over. He said this type of election was started by the late king, drifting away from the Western type of election, which he said did not go well with the Swazi way of doing things. He said he hoped Swazis will follow and do like they did in 1978 when the Tinkhundla type of elections were introduced. The prime minister said all persons of ages from 18 and above are eligible to vote in this Kingdom. He said he is, however, aware that there are certain elements who wish to disturb these elections and warned that such people are known and are being taken care of.

Princess Charged With Sedition, Released on Bail
MB262030 Mbabane The Times of Swaziland in English 26 Oct 83 p 1

[By Mashumi Twala]

[Excerpt] A member of the Royal Family, Princess Dzandza, yesterday appeared in court for a remand hearing on a sedition charge. The crown alleges that Princess Dzandza reproduced and distributed subversive pamphlets. It is alleged that the Princess, who is employed by the Central Bank, was found with hostile leaflets last month. The pamphlets are alleged to make references to the Queen Regent Ntombi and the Authorised Person, Prince Sozisa. It is also alleged that they made insinuation in connection with the circumstances surrounding the death of the king.

The Princess was not asked to plead and was released on E150 bail. She had appeared with two other women who have been charged with the same offence. The two, Dudu Dlamini and Joyce Hlophe, both employees of the Swazibank, were recently released on bail of E200 each. The three will appear again before the Magistrate's Court in Mbabane on November 21.

The Princess brings to eight the total number of women who have so far been charged with this offence.

ZAMBIA

Government 'Unreservedly' Condemns Grenada Events
MB262026 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 26 Oct 83

[Text] The Ministry of Foreign Affairs spokesman has said Zambia strongly disapproves and unreservedly condemns the invasion of Grenada by the United States of America and their collaborators. The spokesman said that Zambia regards the invasion of Grenada not only as a flagrant violation of territorial intergrity and sovereignty of Grenada, but also as a blatant disregard of international law and procedure. Only recently Zambia had strongly condemned the callous murder of Prime Minister Maurice Bishop and, therefore, cannot now condone a similar act of violence by outside forces against the people of Grenada, the spokesman added.

The spokesman said that Zambia does not accept the argument that an invitation to the United States from certain Caribbean states to act against another sovereign Caribbean state justified the invasion. To accept such reasoning would be tantamount to giving license to any country or group of countries which have grievances against another to extend an invitation to any powerful nation to invade such other country, he said. The small and weak countries, the spokesman emphasized, can have no security assured them in such a state of affairs. It is in this context that Zambia calls upon the United States and its allies to withdraw their invading forces from Grenada, and leave the people of Grenada to resolve their problems without outside coercion, intimidation, or any other form of pressure.

ZIMBABWE

Foreign Minister Speaks on UN Anniversary

MB261018 Harare Domestic Service in English 0400 GMT 26 Oct 83

[Text] The minister of foreign affairs, Comrade Witness Mangwende, said that the United Nations should be regarded as a place where cooperation should be the cornerstone of every country's policy. Speaking on the occasion to mark the 38th anniversary of the United Nations in Harare last night, Comrade Mangwende said the problems that are facing the world today cannot be solved without the assistance of the United Nations. He said Zimbabwe supports the United Nations and believes that the effectiveness of the organization depends on the collective will of the governments supporting it.

The minister said Zimbabwe's stand on international affairs is that of noninterference in the internal affairs of other countries. Comrade Mangwende noted that international peace can be achieved if every member-state of the United Nations commits itself to the objectives of the organization. He also noted that the work of the United Nations is made difficult by some member countries who disregard its decisions.

In reply, the assistant administrator for finance and administration in the UN Development Program, Mr Pierre Vinde, expressed his organization's determination to cooperate and support the people of Zimbabwe in their development efforts. He said the challenge facing member-states of the United Nations is to employ material and human resources toward a life of dignity for all.

OAU Commission on Refugees Departs for Botswana

MB270918 Harare Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 27 Oct 83

[Text] A visiting OAU commission of 15 countries on refugees left Harare for Gaborone, Botswana yesterday after holding successful talks with Zimbabwean Government officials. The commission, which arrived in Harare from Addis Ababa, Ethiopia last Friday is visiting five southern African countries to sensitize government and public opinion about the gravity of the refugee problem in Africa. From Botswana the commission will visit Lesotho, Swaziland, and Zambia in an effort to make preparations for the forthcoming international conference on assistance to refugees in Africa, which will be held in Geneva next year.

Israeli Passport Holders Now Require Prior Visas

MB270916 Harare Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 27 Oct 83

[Text] The minister of home affairs, Comrade Herbert Ushewokunze, has issued a statement in connection with visas for Israeli passport holders. Comrade Ushewokunze said from now on Israeli passport holders will be required to secure visas prior to arrival in Zimbabwe, unlike in the past when they used to obtain them at border posts.